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Clinton Intends to 'Do My Job'

Never Stopped Conducting Foreign Affairs, He Says

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton stated firmly Wednesday that he was determined to continue to lead the country and vigorously pursue his conduct of foreign and domestic affairs.

Mr. Clinton made the comments in his first encounter with reporters since the report by the independent counsel Kenneth Starr on his affair with Monica Lewinsky was made public last Friday. He spoke at the State Department in a joint news conference with the visiting Czech president, Vaclav Havel.

While acknowledging the turmoil

that the Starr report has created about his leadership, he repeatedly emphasized his obligation to the American people and to his family to remain in the White House.

"Now that they know what happened, they want to go on and want me to go on and do my job, and that's what I intend to do," he said. "That is the right thing to do."

Polls so far have shown a majority of Americans oppose forcing Mr. Clinton from office.

"I am seized on two things. I am trying to do the still quite painful work that I need to do with my family in our own life, and I'm determined to lead this country and to focus on the issues that are before us," Mr. Clinton said.

Asked about his handling of foreign policy, he said: "I have never stopped leading this country in foreign affairs in this entire year, and I never will."

Mr. Clinton also warned of a "major humanitarian disaster" in Kosovo, where tens of thousands of ethnic Albanians are hiding in the mountains after Serb attacks.

"It is imperative that we move forthrightly with our allies as firmly as possible to avert the humanitarian tragedy and then to get a political solution" in

the war-racked Yugoslav province, Mr. Clinton told the news conference.

Amid rising concern in foreign capitals about the threat to Mr. Clinton's leadership posed by the grave charges in the Starr report, he said he had remained closely in touch with other world leaders, and was "very, very heartened" by reaction from foreign leaders to his call Monday for a joint approach to the spreading global economic crisis.

For Mr. Clinton, it was yet another awkward clash between statesmanship and political scandal.

But he received welcome support from Mr. Havel, the former political dissident whose determined fight against Communist rule in the former Czechoslovakia conferred on him a powerful aura of integrity and international prestige.

Mr. Havel artfully sidestepped questions about Mr. Clinton's predicament, saying that there were many facets of American life he understood — and some that he did not.

Mr. Clinton, in response to a direct question about the possibility of his resignation, said, "I intend to go on, to do my job."

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Mr. Clinton strolling Wednesday in Washington with President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic.

No Global Rate Cut Seen by Greenspan

Fed Chairman Doesn't Suggest Quick Reduction in U.S. Either

By Mitchell Martin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Quashing hopes of a global reduction in interest rates to bolster weak economies, Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, said Wednesday that developed countries were not working on a coordinated move.

"I think that I can safely say that at the moment there is no endeavor to coordinate interest-rate cuts," Mr. Greenspan said, addressing the House Banking Committee in Washington.

There is, however, "fairly extensive" contact among the central banks of the big developed economies, he said.

Mr. Greenspan, appearing before the committee with Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin to discuss the global economy, did not indicate that the U.S. central bank would move quickly to reduce relatively high domestic interest rates in response to problems in other countries, an idea he broached as a possibility earlier this month.

"Our actions must be focused at the end of the day on the American economy," he said in response to a question from Representative John LaFalce, Democrat of New York.

Mr. Greenspan left unclear the outlook for U.S. rates, but Robert DiClemente, economist at Salomon Smith Barney, noted that bond traders were taking the position that a reduction was not imminent. The 30-year Treasury bond's yield fell to 5.23 percent, from 5.26 percent on Tuesday, indicating traders felt the economy was most likely to weaken rather than get a boost from a cut in short-term rates, Mr. DiClemente said.

The Brazilian stock market was also hurt by the testimony from Mr. Greenspan and Mr. Rubin, and the benchmark Bovespa index, which had been about 9 percent higher for the day, finished about 2 percent lower. Brazil, which has seen significant outflows of money in recent days, was hurt both by the waning chances of a global rate cut and by Mr. Rubin's refusal to confirm that there are plans to help the country defend its currency, the real.

In response to a question from Mr. LaFalce, who asked if the United States would "draw the line in Brasilia" to "arrest any further devaluation" in the real, Mr. Rubin said, "I think it is probably



Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin refused to confirm that there were plans to help Brazil's currency.

Bad Numbers In Asia Show The Recession Is Worsening

By Sheryl WuDunn
New York Times Service

TOKYO — As statistics and despair pile up in the countries of Asia, it is becoming clear that the region's recession is deepening, along with the economic and social devastation it brings.

The number of people out of work is rising, and economic output is sinking at its fastest rate in years — in leading countries such as South Korea and Japan, it has been decades since there has been a decline so severe and so widespread.

Banks in many countries are shaky, and corporate failures are feeding a sense of gloom. Stock markets in much of the region have fallen by more than half from their peaks. Malaysia's is down 80 percent in two years. Unemployment has soared. Soup kitchens and rice lines are appearing around the region, and parks and boulevards are filling up with the new homeless.

United States ready for massive trade deficits to help Asia. Page 14.

As governments across East Asia have released half-year report cards in the last few weeks, hopes that there will be a recovery soon have vanished.

"A handful of countries are under depression," said Tim Condon, regional economist at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter in Hong Kong. "People's expectations are adjusting downward. They're close to the point of despair."

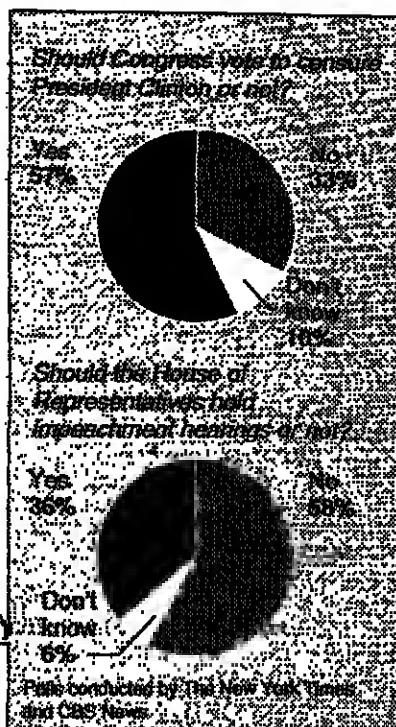
Mr. Condon is one of a number of economists beginning to call the predicament of some Asian countries a depression. He does not compare it, yet, to the Great Depression of the 1930s but says it is much more severe than a mere recession, which has been the common experience in the era since World War II and is usually characterized by a relatively short and shallow fall in output that leads to a moderate rise in unemployment.

In particular, Indonesia, South Korea, Thailand, Hong Kong and Malaysia are undergoing severe contractions in their economies and spikes in unemployment.

Countries with stronger economies are being affected as well. Governments are trimming their growth projections to about 1 percent in the Philippines and Singapore, which do not have the same structural problems as the countries in recession.

Nor has China emerged unscathed.

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PUBLIC'S VERDICT — Most Americans believe Congress should censure President Clinton without holding impeachment hearings, according to nationwide polls conducted by The New York Times and CBS News. Page 6.

No Way Out Of This Crisis Is Evident in The Beltway

By R.W. Apple Jr.
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Much of political Washington, especially the elders who have lived through all this once before, is searching for a way out of the crisis into which President Bill Clinton has plunged the nation's political system. But everywhere they look, they see a roadblock.

Although the latest New York Times/CBS News Poll shows that a majority of Americans — 54 percent — think now that the whole matter should be dropped, few in Washington agree. On this broad question, there is a gap between the Beltway and the hinterland.

A surprising number of people serving in and strongly sympathetic toward the Clinton administration agree with a White House aide who said Tuesday, "The president won't get out of this without being punished, and in terms of clearing the political air, I'm not sure he should."

Many influential figures inside government, like Senator Orrin Hatch, Republican of Utah and chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and Lloyd Cutler, a Democrat and a White House counsel for President Jimmy Carter, are looking for a middle way out, possibly through a censure motion.

But they and others are working separately, not in harness, and thus far no consensus has emerged.

Mr. Cutler, who took part in a strategy session with presidential aides at the White House on Tuesday, proposed this week that the president be censured for those things that he has admitted, such as conducting a sexual affair with Monica Lewinsky and trying

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Newsstand Prices	
Bahrain.....1,000 BO	55 c
Cyprus.....C £ 1.00	Nigeria.....128,000 Naira
Denmark.....14.00 Dkr	Oman.....1,250 OR
Finland.....12.00 FM	Qatar.....10.00 QR
Gibraltar.....£ 0.85	Rep. Ireland.....IR £ 1.00
Great Britain.....£ 0.90	Saudi Arabia.....10 SR
Egypt.....£ 5.50	S. Africa.....R12 + VAT
Jordan.....1,250 JD	U.A.E.....10.00 Dh
Korea.....K SH. 160	U.S. Mail (Eur.).....\$ 1.20
Kuwait.....700 Fils	Zimbabwe.....Zim\$40.00

Allies Worry About U.S. Leadership

Appalled at President's Humiliation, They Fear for World Agenda

By Joseph Fitchett
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The international reaction to President Bill Clinton's political woes has been passionate, almost irate in allied countries, partly because most foreigners are appalled by the humiliating public stripping of a national leader. But passion is also high because many people in these countries feel that the potential for a paralysis of U.S. power will imperil their own national interests, diplomats and officials said Wednesday.

"The international agenda is suddenly jammed with urgent questions — economic, military and organizational — that require U.S. leadership to catalyze some useful consensus among allies who are able to do little or nothing separately," said Jonathan Eyal, director of studies at London's Royal United Services Institute.

Explaining why the juncture of these questions with Mr. Clinton's predicament is so crucial, Mr. Eyal said that

"for the first time since the end of the Cold War, the core principles on which the West is organized — democracy and free markets — are under serious threat, and only the American presidency has the authority to attempt restoring these foundations."

This historic challenge is manifest in the nearly anarchic state of Russia and the protectionist momentum in Asia, where a rising chorus of influential voices has started advocating curbs on markets.

Ominous developments have emerged in quickening tempo recently in North Korea, Iraq and Kosovo — all hot spots where U.S.-led containment policies seem to be unraveling and offering fresh opportunities to Pyongyang, Baghdad and Belgrade.

The risk now, Donald Cameron Watt, a distinguished Cold War historian, said recently, is that Saddam Hussein or "some of the other naughty boys might be tempted to see how far they could take advantage" of any power vacuum in Washington if President Clinton's

energy is sapped by an impeachment inquiry.

In encounters with British, French, Germans and other Europeans in recent weeks, a former American ambassador reports, "I'm assailed by angry Europeans about what is happening in America — because they realize that they depend on Washington more than on their own governments to handle international problems."

London, Bonn and Paris, for example, look to Washington to set the pace in handling the response to India's nuclear tests and the danger that many analysts see of armed conflict between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.

Suddenly, Ukraine's future looks uneasy as a neighbor under threat of being dragged down by Russia's economic collapse and worsening political instability.

Cyprus, with its plan to acquire Russian-built missiles, has brought Turkey and Greece to the point of threatening

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Italians Can't Believe Ears: Movies Lose Their Voices

By Alessandra Stanley
New York Times Service

ROME — For the first time in Italian history, Reva, the heroine of "The Guiding Light," beat on the chest of her handsome shipwreck companion and raged this week in her native English. Tiny subtitles tried to keep up with the heaving dialogue, but most loyal television viewers were confused and outraged.

The broadcast of one of Italy's most beloved soap operas in its original soundtrack was the most startling sign to date of the havoc a two-month strike by dubbers has wreaked on the Italian television and movie industry. The strike also threatens to block the release of "Saving Private Ryan," Steven Spielberg's latest hit, as well as "Lethal Weapon 4" and more than a dozen other long-awaited movies.

Italians have long grown inured to strikes by train conductors, teachers and hospital workers, but the revolt of the hidden voices of cinema has caused a whole new level of panic.

For historic and cultural reasons, dubbing is a deeply entrenched tradition. Far more than their

French or German counterparts, Italians prefer to watch Jim Carrey or Harrison Ford speaking Italian. If the strike continues, it will cost movie studios millions and millions of dollars. Television networks have even more money at risk.

For now, at least, the strikers appear unwilling to relent. "The objective fact is that the work of dubbers has been horribly exploited," said Oreste Lionello, the suitably whiny Italian voice of Woody Allen. "They have kidnapped our vocal cords."

In the United States, where fewer than 2 percent of movies are in foreign languages, a dubbers' strike would go unnoticed. In Italy, where more than 75 percent of new releases are imports, the sudden silence has all but paralyzed the movie and TV industry.

The strike is a battle for a national contract, better wages and a share in royalties. It is also an effort to preserve the dignity of a profession that many view as a dying art.

There are now more than 80 dubbing companies in Italy, and at least 1,000 professional dubbers. Italian film awards like the Davide, the local Oscar, have

long had a category for best dubber of the year.

Some of the best-known Italian dubbers are celebrities in their own right who can demand movie-star fees and celebrity endorsements.

Feruccio Amendola, who is the Italian voice of Robert De Niro, Sylvester Stallone and Dustin Hoffman, is also famous for his fabric-softener commercials.

"The Italian public is accustomed to hearing my voice," he said. "If they heard De Niro speaking, they wouldn't know what to think."

Mr. Amendola, who is observing the strike, was supposed to be busy this month directing the dubbing for a Michael Douglas movie, "A Perfect Murder," which is one of 15 major films whose release in Italy is now in question.

"We are talking about huge losses," said Richard Borg, head of the Rome office of United International Pictures, which has postponed its planned October release of "Saving Private Ryan" and three other films indefinitely. He said his company might

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U.S. Air-Safety Sleuths Draw Imitators

By Don Phillips
Washington Post Service

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia — Over the last year or so, Gregory Feith has shuttled between faraway places like Guam, South Korea and the jungles of Indonesia, as well as a variety of American swamps, fields and forests. Most recently, Mr. Feith, a U.S. air-crash investigator, has traveled to Nova Scotia, where he is looking into the crash of Swissair Flight 111, which killed 229 people.

Such an itinerary is not unusual for the shock troops of the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board, who have spent years exporting the U.S. brand of safety investigation to the rest of the world.

In the three decades since the U.S. safety board was created, a number of other countries have begun to emulate its methods of monitoring transportation safety, from the air to railroads to highways to waterways to pipelines.

The board actively works to promote similar independent investigation boards in other countries, particularly under the current chairman, Jim Hall, partly because many air crashes involve American-made aircraft. Mr. Hall has appointed a veteran official of the board, Ronald Schlegel, to head its international efforts.

Twelve of the independent republics of the old Soviet Union have formed the Interstate Aviation Committee with the



Gregory Feith, left, examining the remains of VahJet Flight 592 in 1996.

help of the U.S. safety board. In 1994, the European Union passed a directive requiring member countries to investigate crashes through an independent agency. Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Argentina, Peru, Sweden, Holland and Portugal are among the countries that have recently either formed independent boards or have them under discussion.

Canada is a prime example of the success of this U.S. export. The Transportation Safety Board of Canada, created in 1990, was patterned after the U.S. safety board. Today, the Canadian board has developed an international reputation of its own, helping to negate

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The Dollar		
New York	Wednesday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
DM	1.6939	1.691
Yen	135.2	133.98
FF	5.8905	5.666
Pound	1.6785	1.6765

The Dow		
	Wednesday close	percent change
S&P 500	8,089.78	+ 0.81%
Nasdaq	1,045.48	+ 0.75%
	1,689.01	+ 0.70%



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Oil Industry / Texas-Sized Conference

New Era of Cheap Crude Brings Unhappy Déjà Vu

By Allen R. Myerson
New York Times Service

HOUSTON — This city is throwing a party for more than 30 oil ministers and 8,000 other officials and executives from at least 82 countries this week. To make sure everyone attending the World Energy Council Congress feels sufficiently welcome, the city greeted them Saturday night with a light show featuring 2 million watts of spotlights, 14 powerful lasers and 12 tons of explosives, enough to make car alarms wail all over downtown.

Coming Thursday is what is being billed as the state's largest sit-down dinner ever, at the Astrodome, where normally 55,000 fans watch Major League Baseball games.

But not even the local brand of relentless hospitality can make up for oil prices that nobody here wants to celebrate. So the gathering this week of the most powerful figures in world energy has become only a brief break from a new and unexpected round of cutbacks and, in some cases, layoffs.

Just a year ago, executives grieved about the bonuses they had to pay to hire and keep geophysicists. Now they wonder how to keep those geophysicists busy.

"Have you found anybody who is not cutting back?" asked Robert Mosbacher, a former commerce secretary. He recounted how the Houston company that bears his name had delayed planned drilling in Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana and several foreign nations.

Compared, of course, with the industry's roller-coaster ride through the 1970s and 1980s, the 1990s might seem more like swan boats. Still,

companies that boasted last year of having the slimmed-down staffs and the new oil-finding technologies to weather low oil prices are saying that by "low" they never meant the current \$14 a barrel.

"The industry is suffering from reverse sticker shock," said Daniel Yergin, the president of Cambridge Energy Research Associates and one of the meeting's featured speakers.

Scott Sheffield, the chief executive of Pioneer Natural Resources Co., for example, gathered employees Tuesday to urge them to cut every expense.

Pioneer completed about \$5 billion worth of acquisitions last year, becoming one of the largest independent oil companies in the United States. It also contracted for drilling services at top dollar. This year, to help pay down \$2 billion in assumed debt, Pioneer has had to dispose of about 10 percent of its properties. Exploration and production outlays have been cut to \$450 million from \$600 million this year and will drop to \$300 million next year.

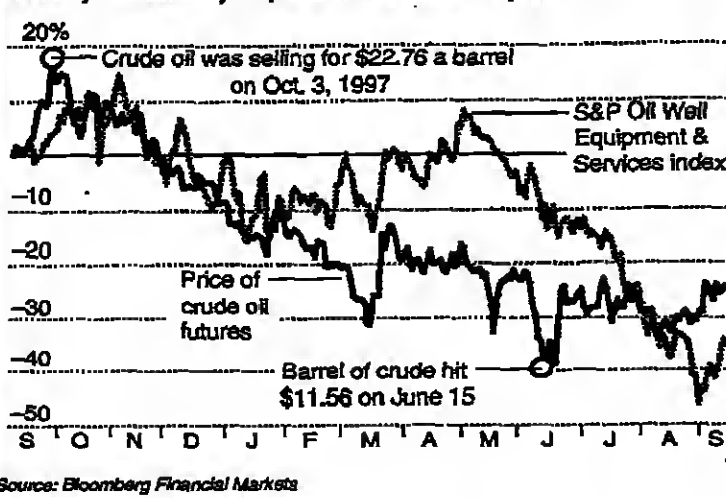
"We were flying high until oil prices cratered," said the public relations chief for Pioneer, Marsha Sheffield, before leaving to help her husband prepare his cost-cutting appeal.

THE MAJOR U.S. oil companies — with interests in refineries, gas stations and petrochemical plants — are more diversified and financially stronger, but not immune. Texaco Inc. has cut its \$4.6 billion exploration and production budget by about 10 percent.

But the oil field services companies are fully exposed to the crisis. Nabors Industries Inc., the world's largest land driller, has cut nearly 3,000

The Well Is Running Dry

A year is a long time in the oil business. The price of crude is off almost 25 percent from last September, while the Standard & Poor's index that measures the performance of companies serving the oil industry has fallen by 35 percent over the same period.



workers across the oil patch from a peak of 13,000 last autumn. A year ago, Nabors had to ask customers seeking rigs and crews how long they could wait. Now the only question is, "How soon can we start?"

Among other oil field service companies, EVI Weatherford Inc. laid off 1,300 of its more than 11,000 employees this year, and Schlumberger Ltd. laid off 700 of its 9,200 domestic oil field service employees through July.

Houston, and Texas more generally, where technology has passed energy as the state's largest employer, are unlikely to feel the pain of the 1980s. Then, entire office towers and subdivisions were left vacant as developers and homeowners walked away from properties and payments.

Last year, through July, oil and gas production gave the Houston region 3,800 new jobs. Through July this year, the industry lost 100 jobs. Overall, the continuing expansion in retailing and construction allowed the area to keep adding jobs at a strong pace.

But Robert Gilmer, a Houston-based Federal Reserve Board economist, said those sectors were coasting on the energy industry's past strength; he predicted a slowdown for the rest of the year. "We can't survive for long by taking in each other's laundry," he said.

The boon for Houston is a boon for the rest of the nation, as low energy prices help sustain strong economic growth with scant inflation. But oil-exporting nations like Russia and Mexico are being pinched.

The World Energy Council, representing the interests of energy producers across several industries, gathers in a different spot every three years. Breakfasts, lunches, receptions and dinners often combine deal-making and international diplomacy.

At a Monday breakfast, drilling company executives vied for the attention of the guest of honor, Luis

Ginist, chief executive of Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. Even Venezuela, having displaced Saudi Arabia as the United States' largest foreign source of oil, has cut its capital budget, mostly for exploration and production, to \$4 billion from \$6 billion.

"I think the \$18 to \$20 oil era is going to be replaced by the \$14 to \$16 era," Mr. Ginist said of barrel prices.

Experts attribute low prices to floods among exporters and the near-cessation of steady natural gas prices. But with huge volumes in storage, these companies are praying as fervently as ski resort operators for a bright winter.

So far, the oilmen of Houston — and, in the 1990s, oilmen — have remained optimistic enough to avoid serious cutbacks on life's necessities. But, chastened perhaps by past reversals, they have far fewer necessities than in the 1970s.

Back then, recalled Stephen Zimmerman, owner of La Colombe d'Or, a restaurant and hotel installed in an oil baron's mansion, oilmen would begin with Dom Perignon, move on to choice burgundies and first-growth Bordeaux — "whatever they could pronounce" — and finish with \$100 shots of century-old armagnac.

And that was for lunch. Then came the 1980s crash. Mr. Zimmerman had a friend deliver an oil barrel, planted it in his entrance hall and pegged the price of lunch to the price of crude.

But even in the best of recent times, his biggest seller had been the house wine, and then only at dinner. "The newer guys never learned to entertain," he said. "A lot of them think a Caesar salad and grilled chicken breast is a gourmet meal."

Mr. Zimmerman, for one, has made provisions in case a still lower oil price compels an even more modest style. Back in the garage sits the oil barrel, ready for its return.

Iran Says It Wants Peace With Taleban

But Its Troops Stream to Afghan Border

By Douglas Jehl
New York Times Service

TEHRAN — Even as fresh contingents of Iranian troops headed for the Afghan border, some senior Iranian officials insisted Wednesday that the country had no appetite for conflict and wanted international help in resolving a conflict with Afghanistan's militant Taleban movement.

That diplomatic quest will be high on President Mohammad Khatami's agenda when he travels to New York next week to speak at the United Nations General Assembly, the officials said in interviews here.

"We are in no rush to fight, and we are definitely not willing to start now," said Mohsen Amintajeh, a deputy foreign minister who has been Iran's top diplomat handling the Afghanistan crisis.

The comments seemed intended to soften the belligerent tone of other recent Iranian pronouncements. Even though Iran has already massed tens of thousands of troops along the Afghan border and has threatened to launch a military attack, the officials insisted that their government was seeking a diplomatic solution to tensions inflamed over the killing by Taleban forces of at least eight Iranian diplomats.

"We are not in a position right now to invade Afghanistan," said Javad Larjani, director of the Parliament's foreign policy institute.

"But we are in a position to confront any troubles which might spill over our borders."

On Wednesday, the Iranian military announced that nine more Army divisions were heading for the country's eastern border and would be in place by Saturday to take part in previously announced military exercises there.

Together with army and Revolutionary Guards troops already there, military experts here said, that would amount to the deployment of more than 250,000 troops to the border with Afghanistan — half of Iran's total military force.

At the same time, the official Iranian news agency IRNA quoted the commander of the Revolutionary Guards, Major General Yahya Rahim Safavi, as having told his subordinates that Iran's foes were trying to draw the country into war. General Safavi vowed that Iranian forces would "dwarf all conspiracies in the offing."

Tensions between Iran and the Taleban, the militant Islamic movement that controls most of Afghanistan, have been increasing since the Taleban acknowl-

edged that their soldiers had carried out the killing last month of at least eight Iranian diplomats and a journalist in the northern Afghan town of Mazar-i-Sharif.

But two other Iranian diplomats missing and feared dead since the Aug. 3 attack were reported Wednesday to have reached Iran safely. One, who had been in the Iranian consulate in the city when it was stormed by Taleban forces, said that everyone else in the compound had been executed and that he had been left for dead.

Taleban officials have promised to punish the soldiers who carried out the attack, who they said had acted without orders. But they have rebuffed an Iranian demand that those responsible be handed over to the Iranian authorities or to an international tribunal, and the top Taleban leader, Mullah Mohammed Omar, has refused another Iranian demand by refusing to issue a formal apology for the incident.

As each side vies to portray itself as the aggrieved party, the Taleban movement has asked the United Nations to establish a mediation process to defuse the tensions that both sides have warned could lead to a dangerous war. But Iran has insisted that the United Nations, whose Security Council has condemned in strong terms the killings of the diplomats, should not act as a neutral body but should intervene on its behalf.

In the interviews Wednesday, the Iranian officials said they believed an acceptable solution to the crisis could be found if the Taleban soldiers responsible for the killings were forced to face a United Nations tribunal, and if the United Nations took other unspecified steps intended to prevent the Taleban forces from carrying out what Iran has warned could be further atrocities.

Mr. Khatami will almost certainly press that campaign during his visit to the United Nations next week, the Iranian officials said, on what will be his first trip to the United States. But because the government of Iran and the United States do not have diplomatic relations, Mr. Khatami is not expected to meet with American officials.

Iranian officials have already vowed to exact a severe price for the diplomats' killings, and those who spoke in interviews Wednesday refused to say how long the Tehran government might wait before it concluded that diplomatic avenues had been exhausted. But they suggested that whatever military action Iran might now be considering against the Taleban would stop well short of an all-out invasion.



Some of the 12 tons of fireworks Houston used to welcome the officials.

UN Study of Terror in Algeria Stirs Up a Storm

By Barbara Crossette
New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — A panel of high political figures who recently visited Algeria to study extremist violence, which has killed tens of thousands of people, blamed terrorists for most of the deaths in a report made public Wednesday.

It added that the Algerian government merited the world's sympathy. The results of the two-week study brought immediate criticism from human rights groups, although the report of the team, led by Marios Soares, a former president of Portugal, confronted government forces with allegations of "excesses" against civilians and said that the country's official human rights body had "no credibility."

Amnesty International called it a "whitewash" of Algerian government of human rights abuses.

The organization was critical of the small number of prisoners and dissidents the panel interviewed.

Members of the team, which was appointed by Secretary-General Kofi Annan, were not allowed to talk with leaders of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front, which had become a major political force by 1990, or other controversial Algerians deemed to be security risks by the government.

The team apparently made no effort to meet members of the Front or its supporters abroad.

The team — with two former prime ministers, two cabinet-level officials and a former ambassador, Donald McHenry of the United States — was not able to interview the head of Algerian security forces, who was described as "out of town."

Requests to meet with members of Berber cultural organizations were rejected.

Most of the allegations against both

sides in the Algerian conflict that the high-level team examined were well known before the group visited the country at the end of July and the beginning of August.

Algeria has been close to a state of armed chaos — and under emergency rule — since the military canceled elections in 1992 after it became apparent that Islamic parties, led by the Salvation Front, would win in a second round of voting.

Although Islamic radicals are widely blamed in Algeria for massacres as well as widespread intimidation and violence against women, the high-level team came away convinced that there was no political rationale for the terrorism.

This viewpoint is fostered by the government, which has sought to dissociate the terrorist attacks from the thwarted 1992 elections.

Testimony from women also indicated that Islamic conservatives who support the government have been allowed to prevent family laws from being reformed substantially.

Islamic fundamentalism is thus prevalent on both sides, human-rights groups say.

The Algerian president, Liamine Zerkou, announced recently that a presidential election would be held before next spring, but there is little likelihood that banned Islamic organizations will be able to take part.

At Human Rights Watch in Washington, Eric Goldstein, a Middle East expert, said that the study by the United Nations team should never have been considered an international human rights investigation, which Algeria has always barred. Mary Robinson, the United Nations high commissioner for human rights, was rebuffed by Algeria when she suggested last year that the world should become involved.

"The report that this commission has

just issued underscores the fact that they did not conduct a human rights investigation," Mr. Goldstein said.

In recent days, at least 40 people have been reported killed in Algeria in massacre-style attacks.

The high-level team was critical in its report of the lack of government transparency in dealing with cases of alleged abuse by government forces.

It said that the government needed a "change of mentality" in the courts as well as in the armed forces and the police. The team was told by Algerian citizens that "ill-treatment and torture" are frequent in police custody. "Cases were cited of judges who turned a blind eye to torture, the report said.

The report also noted the controls and pressures the government applied to the press, and it raised questions with the Algerians about the possible dangerous effects of arming civilian communities for self-protection.

Corrections

Because of an editing error, an article on Page 1 of Wednesday's editions reporting concerns of U.S. diplomats about President Bill Clinton's problems at home incorrectly attributed comments to Stephen Bosworth, the U.S. ambassador to Korea. He did not say that Mr. Clinton might face a special handicap in dealing with members of Congress, nor did he describe the handicap as one related to the president's clout with Congress.

An article in editions of Sept. 9 mischaracterized the holdings of Robert Bass, an American financier. Mr. Bass has no stake in Human Genome Sciences Inc., although some members of his family do. Also, Mr. Bass, not the Bass family, took part in a bid for credit Foncier de France SA.

In addition to Mr. Soares, the team members were Indira Kumar Gujral and Abdel Karim Kobarat, former prime ministers of India and Jordan, respectively; Mr. McHenry, a former American representative at the United Nations; Simone Veil, former minister of state in France and president of the European Parliament; and Amos Wako, attorney general of Kenya.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Parisian Statue at Risk

PARIS (AFP) — The archangel portrayed striking down a demon at Paris's landmark Saint-Michel fountain is losing the battle of time against pigeon droppings and harsh weather.

A decision on a 1.7-million-franc (\$300,000) four-month restoration of the fountain facing the Seine in the Latin Quarter will be made later this month.

Officials said the mid-19th century fountain by Gabriel David was cracked and covered by moss and droppings.

Three unions representing Air France pilots threatened Tuesday to strike Sept. 24 and 25 unless the company agreed by Friday to talks. (AFP)

Northwest Airlines resumed passenger service Wednesday, flying about 430 of its regular 1,700 scheduled flights. The airline, which is recovering from a pilots strike, plans to be at 100 percent service by Monday. (AP)

The second day of a strike by Israeli municipal workers forced pedestrians to pick paths around piles of trash and allowed drivers to park at will. (Reuters)

Travelers should take care while motoring in Mexico as roads and bridges remain washed out after extensive flooding in the states of Chiapas and Oaxaca, the State Department said. Parts of the Pan American highway were obstructed. (AP)

WEATHER



Forecast for Friday through Sunday, as provided by AccuWeather.

Europe	Today	Tomorrow	High	Low	High	Low
Algeria	20/24	19/26	20/24	19/26	20/24	19/26
Belgium	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
France	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Germany	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Italy	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Spain	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
UK	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21

North America	Today	Tomorrow	High	Low	High	Low
Alaska	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Canada	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
USA	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21

Middle East	Today	Tomorrow	High	Low	High	Low
Israel	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Jordan	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Saudi Arabia	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21

Asia	Today	Tomorrow	High	Low	High	Low
China	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
India	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Japan	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Korea	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Thailand	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Vietnam	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21

Africa	Today	Tomorrow	High	Low	High	Low
Algeria	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Libya	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Morocco	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Tunisia	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21

Latin America	Today	Tomorrow	High	Low	High	Low
Brazil	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Colombia	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Peru	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
Venezuela	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21

Oceania	Today	Tomorrow	High	Low	High	Low
Australia	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21
New Zealand	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21	18/22	17/21

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THE AMERICAS

Schumer Will Challenge D'Amato in New York

Again a Loser, Ferraro Ends Her Political Career; Vallone Wins Right to Face Pataki

By Adam Nagourney
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Representative Charles Schumer of Brooklyn, reaping the fruits of a decade of fund-raising and a campaign of ceaseless television advertising, has won the Democratic nomination to challenge Senator Alfonse D'Amato, overwhelming Geraldine Ferraro in her second attempt to return to public office in New York state.

Mr. Schumer easily defeated both Ms. Ferraro and the third major candidate, Mark Green, New York City public advocate, in a victory Tuesday that showed strength that crossed geographic, sex and ethnic lines.

Mr. Schumer's performance suggested that he had gone some distance in erasing doubts many Democrats once said they had about his viability as a challenger to the Republican, Mr. D'Amato.

The results also signaled an end to one of the most notable political careers of the last 20 years. Ms. Ferraro had characterized her second bid for the Senate as an attempt to gain a nomination that she believed was unfairly denied her in 1992 because of unfounded attacks on her ethics.

She was spared such attacks this time, but nonetheless posted a far worse

showing than she did in 1992, when she lost by just 11,000 votes.

Ms. Ferraro, who came to national attention when she ran for vice president in 1984, promptly declared an end to her career in politics.

"Now, my campaign for United States Senate and for any future elective office ends," she said Tuesday night.

Democratic primary voters chose the New York City Council speaker, Peter Vallone, to challenge Governor George Pataki in a primary that turned out to be far less competitive than expected. Mr. Vallone easily defeated three candidates.

Mr. Schumer's victory came on a day of notably low voter turnout in New York state, reflecting an absence of interest in the contests. The turnout figures were being closely watched by Democratic leaders, concerned that President Bill Clinton's difficulties in Washington could depress interest among party members, and hurt Democratic efforts to defeat Mr. D'Amato and Mr. Pataki.

Humphrey Wins in Minnesota

Dirk Johnson of the New York Times reported from Minneapolis:

Hubert H. Humphrey III, who bears Minnesota's most revered political name, easily won the Democratic Par-

ty nomination for governor of Minnesota.

Mr. Humphrey, the son and namesake of the late vice president, senator and 1968 presidential nominee, has been the state's attorney general for the last 16 years. He will face the Republican nominee, Mayor Norm Coleman of St. Paul, who switched parties two years ago.

The Democratic also-runs included Ted Mondale, the son of former Vice President Walter Mondale; Mike Freeman, the son of former Governor Orville Freeman, and Mark Dayton, an heir to the Dayton Hudson department store conglomerate.

Washington Mayor Nominees

The Washington Post reported from Washington:

Anthony Williams, the former chief financial officer in Washington, won the Democratic primary for mayor, drawing votes from every corner of Washington and trouncing three City Council members.

Just three months after a citizens coalition persuaded him to quit his job and make a late entry into the mayor's race, the political novice garnered 50 percent of the vote in a field of seven, with his closest rival, Kevin Chavous, trailing by more than 15 percentage points.

In the Nov. 3 general election, Mr. Williams will face Carol Schwartz, the Republican primary winner, who is making her third bid for the mayor's office.

Massachusetts Governor Race

In Massachusetts, the Republican governor, Paul Cellucci, defeated Treasurer Joe Malone after a bitter primary campaign. The Associated Press reported.

Scott Harshbarger topped a three-way race that included state Senator Patricia McGovern to win the Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

Republicans settled a bitter Senate primary in Washington state, nominating the conservative U.S. representative, Linda Smith, over a moderate, Chris Bayley. She will challenge Senator Patty Murray.

With 41 percent of precincts reporting, Ms. Murray had more than 219,000 votes compared with 198,000 for the two Republicans combined.

Oklahoma Democrats decided not to make a dead woman their choice for U.S. Senate. Jacquelyn Ledgerwood, who died July 15, lost to an air conditioning repairman, Don Carroll, on a Democratic runoff ballot in Oklahoma. Mr. Carroll now faces Senator Don Nickles, considered a shoo-in for re-election.



Charles Schumer, who overwhelmed Geraldine Ferraro in the Democratic primary in New York.

Away From Politics

• Eight-year-old Seth Brown and his 5-year-old brother, Sam, of El Paso, Texas, said they returned the \$23,399 they found in a shopping mall restroom because it was the right thing to do. The construction contractor who had left the bag behind personally thanked the brothers and gave them an undisclosed reward. (AP)

• The New York hospital system and Transit Authority have offered the parents of a Utah man who was slain in a 1990 subway robbery \$300,000 to settle their \$100 million wrongful-death suit, which says the transit agency failed to provide a safe subway. (AP)

• A 9-year-old in Los Angeles was charged with second-degree murder for the stabbing death of his 11-year-old brother during "horseplay." He is possibly the youngest person ever accused of murder in Los Angeles County. (AP)

• In a compromise with preservationists, a New York City committee approved a redesign of the art deco Rockefeller Center that includes an underground viewing area of the skating rink. (AP)

POLITICAL NOTES

Clinton Videotape: Pictures at 11

WASHINGTON — If President Bill Clinton's videotaped testimony to the grand jury in the Monica Lewinsky investigation is made public, it could instantly transform television coverage of the case — and present the networks with a dilemma.

"It's an unprecedented side of the story," said Al Ortiz, executive producer of the CBS Evening News. "It may show a dimension of the president that we heretofore haven't seen." "It could be a defining moment," said Frank Sesno, CNN's Washington bureau chief. "People will be able to judge for themselves whether Ken Starr went too far in his questions or Bill Clinton misled or evaded too much in the answers he provided. The facial expressions, the words he uses, when he gets angry, that will convey a lot."

But the unprecedented opportunity to broadcast grand jury testimony — while Congress is considering an impeachment inquiry — is fraught with pitfalls for network executives.

"Most likely we'll watch it go by, decide what's newsworthy and play it to air on an urgent basis," Mr. Ortiz said. "I don't think we'd be going with it blindly, in part because of the taste issues that would arise."

Cable news networks, with 24 hours to fill, are most likely to carry significant parts of the testimony, which lasted four hours. "We'll air major portions of it," Mr. Sesno said. But he added that there might need to be some "filtering," depending on "the degree to which this gets into a level of explicit detail." (WP)

Jones Lawyers Want a Tape, Too

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — Lawyers for Paula Jones have appealed a judge's order denying her property rights to President Clinton's videotaped deposition in her dismissed sexual harassment case.

The appeal of Judge Susan Webber Wright's order was filed Tuesday. The deposition, taped Jan. 17 at the White House, was sealed by Judge Wright.

Ms. Jones should be free to do "whatever she wishes" with the videotape, said her lawyer, James Fisher. Asked later if Ms. Jones wanted to profit from the tape, he responded: "There are an awful lot of players in this story that have made a lot of money, and Paula Jones is not one of them."

Ms. Jones's team paid for the stenographer at the deposition and for the taping, he said.

Judge Wright dismissed Ms. Jones's lawsuit April 1, saying that the former Arkansas state employee could not support claims that Mr. Clinton propositioned her at a Little Rock hotel in 1991. Ms. Jones's lawyers appealed. (AP)

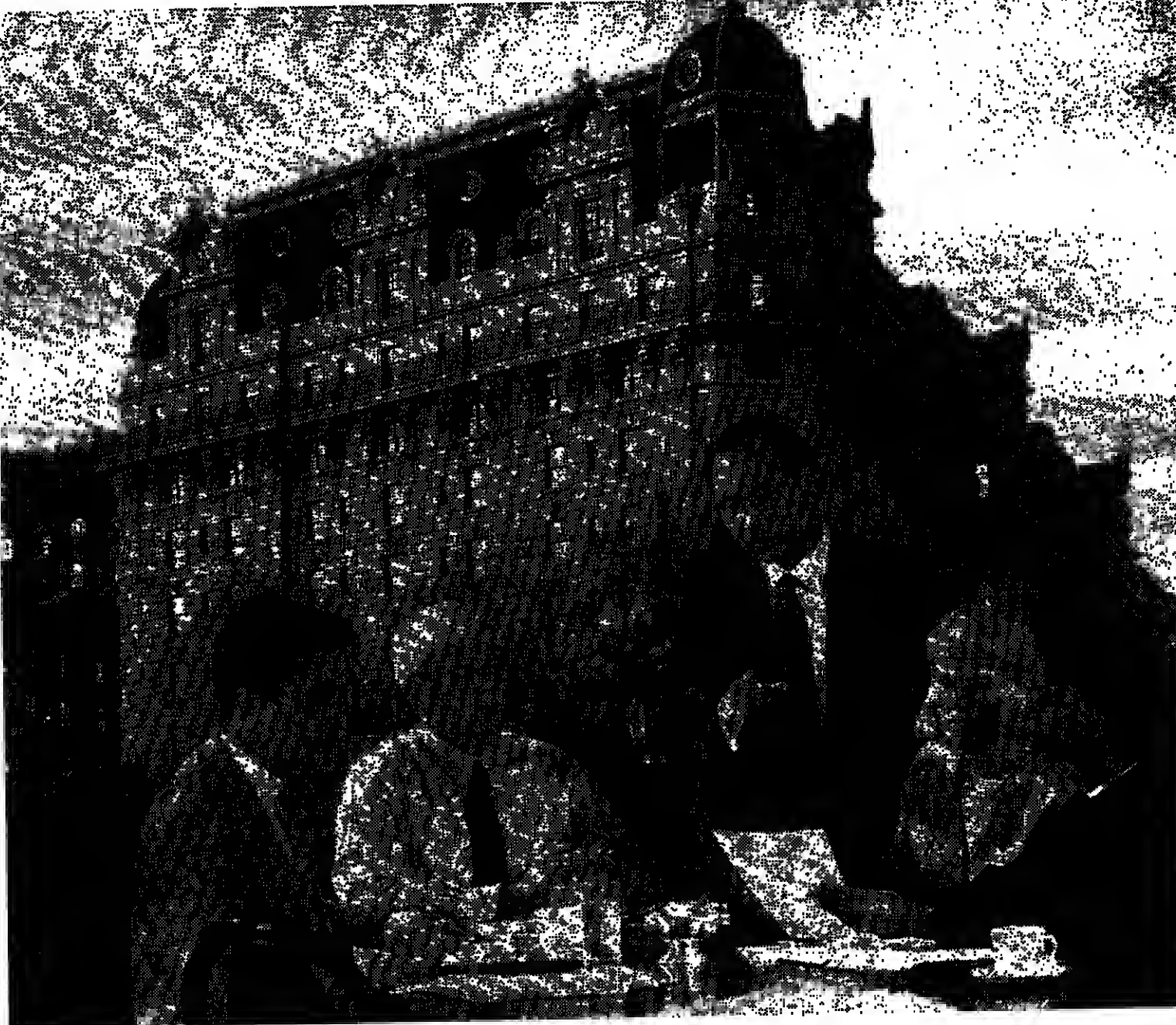
Mrs. Clinton to Work for Party

WASHINGTON — When Hillary Rodham Clinton met with two dozen Democratic female lawmakers at the White House, she assured them that she would use her popularity to get out the party's message and help Democrats get elected in November.

The House members sought out Mrs. Clinton on Tuesday amid concerns that the sex and perjury allegations against President Clinton were obscuring much of his party's agenda with elections seven weeks away.

"There was no discussion of the scandal," said Representative Zoe Lofgren of California. "There was a discussion about how do we get our message across, how do we accomplish this for the American people."

And there was no attempt to comfort Mrs. Clinton. "We wouldn't have patronized her by assuming that she was anything but what she appeared to be, which was ebullient and engaged," said Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton of the District of Columbia. (WP)



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EUROPE

Berisha Calls On Albanians To 'Overthrow Dictatorship'

Agence France-Press

TIRANA — About 3,000 supporters of Sali Berisha, the former Albanian president, demonstrated again Wednesday in Tirana, the second day in succession, as Parliament considered stripping him of immunity in reaction to accusations that he was behind a coup attempt.

Mr. Berisha, for his part, seemed unperturbed, calling on his supporters to continue daily protests aimed at "overthrowing the dictatorship" of Prime Minister Fatos Nano.

"Those who have overthrown the dictatorship of Hoxha will overthrow the dictatorship of the terrorists," he said in Tirana, referring to Enver Hoxha, the Communist who ruled over Albania for decades.

"Those who think of the restoration of neo-communism are making a mistake," Mr. Berisha said, adding: "I will never leave my country."

He spoke as his supporters gathered in front of the Democratic Party headquarters, and then joined them for a march through the streets of central Tirana that passed without violence.

Police units were present but kept away from the protesters even though public demonstrations had been banned.

Mr. Berisha's wife was also among the marchers who chanted slogans, "Death to Fatos Nano!" "Death to communism!" and "Berisha for president!"

Mr. Berisha is accused by the authorities of stirring up unrest in the capital, which has left eight dead and 80 injured in three days, according to the Interior Ministry.

The rioting followed the murder on Saturday of Azem Hajdari, an opposition deputy and one of the founders of the Democratic Party.

An Interior Ministry spokesman, Artan Bizhga, said Wednesday that all the dead in the disorders were anti-government demonstrators or looters, with a single exception, a barman who was shot by unidentified gunmen in Ndrog, 15 kilometers (10 miles) south of Tirana.

The wounded included five soldiers, two members of the National Guard and four policemen.

An Albanian commission from Parliament, at the request of the state prosecutor, was to meet to decide whether to strip Mr. Berisha of his parliamentary immunity along with four other party officials, Assembly sources said.

Such a move would leave them subject to arrest.

Two-thirds of the deputies were expected to vote in favor of the measure. A Socialist deputy said, however, that an early decision was unlikely.

Late Tuesday, the Albanian cabinet announced it would prosecute Mr. Berisha for leading a conspiracy.



Sali Berisha, the opposition leader, rallying supporters on Wednesday.

Setback for West in Bosnia Election

By Mike O'Connor
New York Times Service

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — A key player in U.S. strategy in Bosnia, the Bosnian Serbs' leader, Biljana Plavsic, appears to have been voted out of office in weekend elections, according to officials monitoring the preliminary results.

Mrs. Plavsic, president of the Serb Republic, has most likely been defeated by Nikola Poplasen, the officials say. Mr. Poplasen, the leader of the Serbian Radical Party, is considered an extreme nationalist.

"If Poplasen has won, it means the Bosnian Serbs are telling the West, 'We don't care about you or your money or your quaint ideas about reconciliation with Muslims and Croats,'" said a European diplomat.

He added that the election results, although still unofficial, appeared to be "staggering."

Results for the Bosnian Serbs' leg-

islature indicate that moderates may be able to hold their slight majority.

Officials said major races in the rest of the country were too close to call, except that the Muslim leader, Alija Izetbegovic, was certain to be returned to the three-person presidency.

The Western strategy of isolating nationalists and supporting moderate politicians was taken the furthest with Mrs. Plavsic.

Western leaders praised her extravagantly for more than a year and her part of Bosnia was plucked from economic chaos by Western aid in order to generate public support for her.

Mrs. Plavsic was identified early last year by American diplomats as a Bosnian Serb leader with nationalist credentials who could be persuaded that if she acted more moderately she and her people would benefit from Western aid and acceptance.

The gambit was to strengthen her and use her to break the control that hard-core nationalist politicians had over the

half of Bosnia that, after the 1992-95 war, is almost exclusively Serbian and is called Republika Srpska.

It seemed to be working. Since last summer, Western leaders, including Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, visited Mrs. Plavsic.

For her part, Mrs. Plavsic won a majority in the Republika Srpska legislature and was able to gain control over most government ministries, all the time pleasing Western officials with her cooperation on many issues.

Gradually, the hostility between the Serbian half of the country and other half, governed by a Croat-Muslim coalition, lessened.

But the unofficial results of the election now coming out seem to show that Bosnian Serbs are still very fearful of Muslims and Croats, as well as mistrustful of the West.

A Western official in Republika Srpska said he expected most European countries would now begin to scale back or terminate aid projects there.

No Plan on Kosovo as Winter Nears

By Philip Shenon
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — As evidence mounts that a "human catastrophe" is developing from the warfare in Kosovo, the United States is still far from a decision over the use of military force to end a Serbian offensive that has forced

hundreds of thousands of people to flee, Clinton officials say.

The crisis in the province, whose ethnic Albanian majority is seeking independence, is likely to pose a test of President Bill Clinton's resolve and ability to take decisive action in foreign policy in the wake of the Monica

Lewinsky scandal.

"The situation is awful and getting worse," said one official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"If we don't want thousands of people to starve to death this winter, the White House will need to make a decision very quickly on whether to use firepower."

Charity groups say the situation is growing more desperate by the hour, with nearly continuous Serbian shelling of ethnic Albanian villages.

More than 900 people have been reported killed in the conflict this year, most of them Kosovo Albanian guerrillas and civilians.

Former Senator Bob Dole, the 1996 Republican nominee for president, described a "human catastrophe in the making" after a recent visit to Kosovo.

"I saw them up close and in person: women and children, the elderly living in fear without adequate food and shelter," he said. "These hungry masses will within weeks face winter and the freezing conditions that come with it."

Some Washington officials say they are pressing the White House to make a direct warning to Slobodan Milosevic, the president of Yugoslavia, which links Serbia and Montenegro, that the United States will use military force against Serbian targets if the onslaught is not halted.

Most likely, it is said, the attacks would be carried out by cruise missiles.

Similar strikes in 1995 were credited with helping end three years of civil war in neighboring Bosnia, forcing the combatants to the peace table.

Other Clinton aides are more cautious, fearing that military force by the United States and its reluctant NATO partners might only embolden Serbian forces into a more violent campaign.

At a meeting Tuesday with reporters in Washington, General John Jumper, commander of U.S. air forces in Europe, said the situation in Kosovo was in some ways more complex than the situation three years ago in Bosnia, and that air strikes in Kosovo might not have the same effect.

"The air campaign can be done," he said. "The air campaign is just like before. It's one that is easy to put together, and it's not difficult to execute."

But he added: "The solutions that we saw work before are not necessarily the solutions that the leadership thinks will work in this case."

Administration officials say they fear that air strikes might encourage the Kosovo Liberation Army, the force taken by the diverse groups of rebel movements seeking independence for the province.

"This is not a goal supported by the United States and its allies."

"We don't want to be the Kosovars' air force," said senior U.S. official. "It's not the same dynamic as in Bosnia, because we don't recognize Kosovo's independence. We recognize the Kosovo region as an important part of Serbia."

Administration officials involved in policy-making in the Balkans say they are working against a de facto deadline of mid-October in deciding what to do. That is when winter sets in among the mountains.

■ **Envoy Briefs NATO**

The U.S. special peace envoy for Kosovo, Christopher Hill, was briefing the Western allies at NATO headquarters on Wednesday. Reuters reported from Brussels. Strobe Talbott, deputy secretary of state, was at the session of the North Atlantic Council.

The French government disclosed that Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine conferred by telephone with his British counterpart, Robin Cook, on a resolution to be submitted to the UN Security Council.

Britain Bars Yugoslav Airline

LONDON — Britain said Wednesday that it would immediately ban all flights by the national Yugoslav airline, JAT.

Britain had previously said it would take 12 months to implement a European Union ban agreed to last week. But Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said Wednesday he had concluded that an immediate ban was necessary, given the "continued repressive activities" of Yugoslav troops in the Serbian province of Kosovo.

Until Wednesday, Britain had said that a 1959 agreement with JAT took precedence over EU law and required London to give Belgrade 12 months' notice. But citing "moral and political grounds," Mr. Cook said Yugoslavia had forfeited the warning period. (Reuters)

Illegal Immigrants Targeted

BONN — Representatives of the 10 nations in Europe's passport-free zone agreed Wednesday to crack down on illegal immigration through improved cooperation and tighter security measures.

The executive committee of Schengen, the name for the border-free zone encompassing 10 of the 15 European Union countries, approved an action plan designed to tackle security issues at a two-day conference in Bonn.

The action plan includes proposals to intensify controls at external borders, increase checks at air and sea

ports, the immediate deportation of illegal immigrants and the imposition of sanctions on travel companies that bring passengers into the Schengen zone without the correct papers. (Reuters)

Irish Terrorist Is Freed Early

BELFAST — The first imprisoned member of the Ulster Volunteer Force gained early release Wednesday under the terms of Northern Ireland's peace agreement.

The release of Simon Corry, a member of the Protestant group who had served 5 1/2 years of a 12-year sentence for illegally possessing firearms, means all paramilitary groups who declared cease-fires before the accord have now had members freed early.

Mr. Corry was one of seven inmates released Wednesday from the top-security Maze prison southwest of Belfast.

Authorities began the early releases Friday, and up to 200 prisoners are expected to be let out by the end of the year. (AP)

France May Cut Judges' Power

PARIS — France's leftist government proposed on Wednesday to strip powerful investigating magistrates of one of their bluntest weapons, the right to put suspects in pretrial detention without charges.

The reform, strongly supported by President Jacques

Chirac, a conservative, would also allow suspects to consult their lawyers as soon as they are taken in for questioning rather than having to wait 20 hours as is now the case.

Critics say French magistrates, whose powers cover those of both a prosecutor and a grand jury, frequently abuse pretrial detention to obtain confessions.

Investigating magistrates have denounced the reform, calling it an attempt to undercut them now that they have begun investigating political and financial scandals more aggressively. (Reuters)

Wife of Le Pen May Run

PARIS — The wife of the far-right political leader Jean-Marie Le Pen says she will take her husband's place in next year's European Parliament elections if a court upholds a two-year ban on his running for office — punishment for attacking a Socialist politician.

Jany Le Pen, in an interview published Wednesday by the newspaper *L'Express*, said she would run for a political seat.

But that her husband would need a "standard bearer" if barred from running.

A Versailles court has convicted Mr. Le Pen for physically attacking Annette Peulvast-Bergel on May 30, 1997, in the working class town of Mantes-La-Jolie, west of Paris, where she was campaigning for a seat in the French National Assembly. Mr. Le Pen was there leading his daughter, Marie-Caroline, support in her bid for a seat. (AP)

Brussels Derails Milan Airport Plan

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The European Commission on Wednesday derailed Italy's plans to open the newly enlarged Malpensa airport as a major hub for northern Italy, ruling that an attempt to shift foreign carriers to the new facilities was illegal under European

Union law. Nine EU airlines protested Italy's plans to move them from Linate airport on the edge of Milan to Malpensa next month while allowing the state carrier, Alitalia, to continue using Linate to feed its intercontinental hub at Leonardo da Vinci International Airport in Rome. Malpensa is 53 kilometers (33 miles) from Milan, and it

would be unfair to force the foreign carriers to move there before adequate road and rail links have been built, the commission said. Under the EU's single market regulations, governments are prohibited from discriminating in favor of national companies.

In upholding their complaint, the commission ruling

gave the airlines a legal basis to defy the Italian decree, commission sources said.

Claudio Burlando, the Italian transportation minister, said that by insisting that the European airlines have an equal opportunity to serve their hubs from Linate, the commission would make it impossible for Malpensa to fulfill its role as a regional hub.

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HOLY SAINT JUNE, apostle and martyr, gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit. He is the source of our grace and the power of our prayer. He is the one who leads us to the Father. He is the one who gives us the strength to resist the devil. He is the one who gives us the joy of the Lord. He is the one who gives us the peace of the Holy Spirit. He is the one who gives us the love of God. He is the one who gives us the life of the Father. He is the one who gives us the kingdom of the Father. He is the one who gives us the glory of the Father. He is the one who gives us the honor of the Father. He is the one who gives us the praise of the Father. He is the one who gives us the thanksgiving of the Father. He is the one who gives us the adoration of the Father. He is the one who gives us the worship of the Father. He is the one who gives us the service of the Father. He is the one who gives us the obedience of the Father. He is the one who gives us the submission of the Father. 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**FIRST.
FIRST.
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(MUST TRY HARDER.)



The Chrysler Viper GTS-R. Winner of the 1998 FIA GT2 championship
three races before the end with six victories out of seven races.
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OPINION/LETTERS

Clinton's Worst Sin Is Perverting Language

By Maureen Dowd

WASHINGTON — The quintessential Bill Clinton moment can be found in footnote No. 109 of the Starr report.

The president was asked before the Starr grand jury about Robert Bennett's assertion during the deposition for the Paula Jones case that "there is absolutely no sex of any kind" between the president and Monica Lewinsky. His defense in the case was right, Mr. Clinton said, because he was using the present tense. "It depends on what the meaning of the word 'is' is," the president explained helpfully.

The same footnote offers three other Clintonian gems before the grand jury: "I have

He is admitting and denying at the same time, forcing his aides to behave like crazy contortionists.

not had sex with her as I defined it." "It depends on how you define alone." And, "There were a lot of times when we were alone, but I never really thought we were." His double-talk had a contagious effect on Betty Currie. "I don't want the impression of sneaking," the president's secretary said about Ms. Lewinsky, "but it's just that I brought her in without anyone seeing her."

Mr. Clinton's greatest sin is not sex or dissembling about sex, as the heavy-breathing Kenneth Starr believes. His greatest sin is swindling and perverting the American language. He is like the cursed girl in the fairy

tale: Every time he opens his mouth, a road jumps out.

His problems stem from his instinct when he runs into trouble to shroud rather than illuminate. He tries to make words subjective, insisting they mean only what he wants them to. Just as he made the Democratic Party about himself, and the Democratic Conventions about himself, and the presidency about himself, he tries to make the language about himself.

But he can't. Laws are composed of words. The president is in charge of the laws. When he drains meaning from words, he jeopardizes his ability to govern. He has made Washington Orwellian. His corrupt language corrupts thought.

In order to escape the noose, he is admitting and denying at the same time, and forcing his lawyers and aides to go out and behave like crazy contortionists. Even Democrats are ashamed of the chinked-headed "hairsplitting," as Tom Daschle, the Senate minority leader, calls it.

The president admits trying to mislead Paula Jones's lawyers, but denies lying under oath. He admits Ms. Lewinsky had sex with him, but denies he had sex with her. He denies that oral sex (the second word of which is sex) is sex. The president, says his lawyer, David Kendall, committed "interpretations of contorted definitions," not perjury.

Once I went to Elizabeth Arden and they tried to sell me some soap. I told them that

soap dried out my skin. "But," said the saleswoman, "this is the soap that isn't a soap." I bought it. It dried out my skin.

A friend of mine once picked up a purse at a counter in Saks and observed that it felt like plastic. "No," the saleswoman told her, "it's Plasticine." The Clinton world is full of soap that isn't soap and plastic that isn't plastic.

The great enemy of clear language is insincerity," George Orwell wrote in a famous essay on politics and language.

Mr. Clinton's supporters are upset that he did not give his groveling prayer-breakfast speech 25 days earlier, on the night he made his defiant television address. But the petulant and angry television address was the authentic Clinton moment. The repentant and lip-biting prayer breakfast speech was the contrived Clinton moment.

I don't think he should be pushed from office. For his transgressions, he should have to perform 28 months of community service. He can join his National Service corps. Let him put aside his risky and challenging sex life and take on a risky and challenging public life. Let him cash in on his popularity and do something wonderful for the country in return for all the slop he has put us through. As Rhet Butler said, "If you have enough courage you don't need a reputation."

But if he wants to move past "the adversity of the moment," as he so delicately calls it, he must stop ducking and find a way to reconnect words and meaning. If he can't, he will be in big trouble. Depending on what you mean by the word "be."

The New York Times

Just a Thought From the Cheap Seats: A Dose of Hard Times Could Be Good

By Rick Newman

WASHINGTON — I hope a recession is coming.

During the last one, the airlines were so desperate for business that they had to lower prices and treat customers nicely. You could tell the difference between the passenger and the cargo compartments.

Now, there are so many eager travelers that the airlines are earning record profits. Fares have gone up, passengers almost have to sit on each other's laps, and you

MEANWHILE

are lucky if a flight attendant brings a bag of pretzels at you on a three-hour flight. It would be nice if a little economic downturn tilted things back in the economy class's favor.

Real estate developers are getting a little cocky too. In my neighborhood, the few wooded areas left are being turned into tracts as stark as a Monopoly board near the end of the game, when everybody has replaced their little green houses with big red ones.

A billboard in front of one parcel reads, "Executive homes on wooded lots, from \$499,000." (Wooded, that is, until they actually build the houses.) The "executives" seem to be stock-market millionaires who are happy to

pay a little extra for such particle-board palaces. Maybe a dive in the Dow will put the woods out of these executives' price range.

Not that I want anybody to suffer terribly. I'd just like to see things get bad enough that all of the sport-utility vehicles on the road get repossessed. They are not really sporting — the most appealing attribute is the ability to bully vehicles in lower weight classes — and their only unique utility is being able to drive over curbs without making the CD player skip. With those \$35,000 trucks out of the way, it should be easier for the rest of us to find our way around.

Plus, a recession could help restore the public's civic awareness. Voters are so bedazzled by their literal good fortune that they are like my 2-year-old daughter when she is watching Barney: No amount of sideshow antics can distract their attention.

That is why the president can hang on to his office after graphic details of his extramarital sex life invade every household in America. Voters listening with half an ear simply nod as they concentrate on counting their money. If the

stock market's recent roller coaster does degenerate into a free fall, they could become a lot more interested in what kind of man is leading the country.

Of course, I might benefit personally from a recession. When people were getting laid off back in the early 1990s, just having a steady income gave me confidence. But watching people pile up fortunes much larger than mine has made me feel as if I'm falling behind. Maybe if a market correction forces those people to sell some assets, my relative standing will improve.

Then there are the quality-of-life improvements to look forward to. It would be nice to be able to find a parking space at the mall, which might happen if enough people can no longer afford to buy stuff.

Significant layoffs could reduce rush-hour traffic, since fewer people would be going to work.

And with more skilled people out there looking for jobs, I might actually be able to find a babysitter on weekends. Assuming I will still have some disposable income to spend.

The writer, a correspondent for U.S. News & World Report, contributed this column to The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Starr's Report: Some Readings From Abroad

Having watched from abroad with mounting alarm as the Lewinsky scandal spirals out of control, I fear that the functioning of the American political system will be seriously undermined if the U.S. Congress pursues the president's impeachment on the basis of the independent counsel's unconscionably salacious and partisan report.

President Bill Clinton, even so damaged, must not be removed from office. Greater principles are at stake. Presidents are elected and barring the most serious offenses against the nation — crimes of the rank of treason or grave abuses of power — they serve their full terms.

Mr. Clinton deserves censure for his action, but so does Kenneth Starr, who has abused the powers entrusted him. Congress should unanimously censure both. Then Mr. Clinton can limp through his broken term and Mr. Starr can promote his book. Afterward, we Americans must consider how we have allowed such

an extraordinary attempt to subvert our most basic national principles.

ANDREW ZEGA,
Paris.

The only ones to have shown common sense and restraint in the Monica Lewinsky affair are Hillary Clinton and the American people. In the end, fortunately, they are the only ones who count.

HENRY BLUMENFELD,
Gif-sur-Yvette, France.

Is there a law entitling the government of the United States to create and promote porno sites? Are there no rights to privacy whatsoever for public officials or interns regarding the most intimate details of their sexual encounters when they are in question as to material relevance of alleged criminal offenses? Is there any possibility now for the potential defendant in this case to receive a fair trial?

As an American who has been dis-

gusted for months with legalized voyeurism sponsored by the government at the cost of millions of dollars, I am now livid with rage.

President Clinton may not be able to do much but fight the battle politically. But I believe Ms. Lewinsky should be entitled to sue the government for millions, and I hope she does. Wasn't she informed that she was giving secret testimony? Or did she go before the grand jury and tell every detail for the purpose of exposing her sex life internationally to millions of people?

EVA ADAMS,
Berlin.

Those given to vituperation and hatred know well that their castigations of President Clinton are not proportionate to his misdeeds. The defect in the president's nature did not prevent him from serving his country well. He is still a compassionate man, sensitive to the needs of the American people and dedicated to making their lives better. We Americans need to be aware that we are

in this rabid process doing inestimable damage to our country.

JULES DASSIN,
Athens.

Reporters and pundits refer to Mr. Starr's charges as allegations, but then they go on to discuss the content of the report as though it is fact. What has happened to objectivity?

CATHERINE FUREY,
London.

A system running amok. That is the image America is presenting to the world. America's talent for self-destruction is unbelievable. What a pity!

PIERRE M. MARTIN,
Toulouse, France.

Lawmakers should take a deep breath while reading the Starr report, keeping in mind that Mr. Starr is likely to be remembered as the McCarthy of the '90s.

KAREN KERNADY,
Pontlevoy, France.

If, as David Maraniss very convin-

cingly suggests, Mr. Clinton is not conscious of lying when he does ("A History of Adjusting in Predicament," Sept. 14), then he is out of fit to hold his present responsibilities. He does not deserve to be in the White House.

MICHELINE COURTY,
Paris.

The spectacle of my fellow Americans rushing into a peeping-tom act of historic proportions — sponsored by an officially appointed investigator and a majority in the U.S. Congress — aroused a deep sense of shame for my country. One can only hope that a complete list of the names of those legislators who signed off on this act will be made public.

JOE WILLIAMS,
Düsseldorf.

Americans elected the president in part for his fighting spirit. It is time for him to go on the offensive.

P. MANASSE,
Monte Carlo.

It looks a bit like a wild-west lynching but it is a double feature: the lynching of Bill Clinton and of the presidency, with the Republican posse panting after the chase, guns drawn, waiting for the kill.

RICHARD FREMANTLE,
Florence.

Mr. Starr has taken great pains to indicate the grave consequences that would befall Ms. Lewinsky if the government could prove she was lying. But both she and he are fully aware that while her testimony cannot be refuted, neither can any of it be substantiated.

REYNOLD RIEMER,
Paris.

Despite his questionable credibility, Mr. Clinton was elected president twice in free and fair elections. Voters may have thought their choices were limited, but just wait until 2000. The sanity of any man or woman seeking the presidency will be brought into serious question.

KENDAL SHABER,
Singapore.

BOOKS

THE LAST KABBALIST OF LISBON

By Richard Zimler. Illustrated. 318 pages. \$24.95. Overlook Press.

Reviewed by Richard Bernstein

WHAT lives for centuries but can still die before its own birth? The answer to that cabalist riddle — or at least what Richard Zimler presents as a cabalist riddle in his intriguing mystery of 16th-century Lisbon — will not be disclosed here, but you can find out in "The Last Kabbalist of Lisbon" (as Zimler spells the term for Jewish mysticism).

My prediction is that you won't regret spending a few hours with this book. I'm not sure how deep your understanding of cabala will become, but you will find yourself drawn into a moody, tightly constructed historical thriller that is both entertaining and instructive.

Zimler, an American writer who has lived in Portugal since 1990, has invented a manuscript that, he explains in a preface, was discovered a few years ago in Istanbul inside a *nik*, a small cylindrical chest traditionally used by Sephardic Jews to house the Torah, the first five books of the Old Testament. Inside this *nik* was not a Torah but a cache of manuscripts by one Berekiyah Zarco, all written with the sort of reed pen used in 16th-century Iberia. Seven of the volumes are treatises on cabala, but three, written in the form of an early picaresque novel, tell the story of the murder of Berekiyah's revered uncle, a great cabalist scholar from Lisbon named Abraham.

Zimler's description of this discovery is clever enough to seem real rather than part of a fictional conceit. He is not persuasive on every page, however, as he tries to create the impression of an authentic early Renaissance document written from inside the chiaroscuro world of hidden Jewry in the years of the Portuguese Inquisition. Here and there a modern locution creeps into his text — a reference to pragmatism, for example, or the appearance of a bit of dialogue

tinged with a late-20th-century sensibility — like "Save it, Carlos! I don't want your protection."

The author also frequently uses "gift" as a verb, as in, "I realized the powers of disguise, gifted to the man I used to bring to justice," which seems stilted without being authentic to the period.

But generally speaking "The Last Kabbalist of Lisbon" is both a good mystery story and an effective evocation of a faraway time and place. Zimler begins by subjecting Berekiyah's manuscript to critical scrutiny, citing evidence that it is authentic and wondering why there is no mention of it in "contemporaneous Jewish manuscripts." Possibly, he conjectures, Berekiyah's "disparaging characterizations of Old Christians" — as distinct from the Jewish "converts," or "New Christians" — and his "treatment of such topics as sex and the schism between cabalists and rabbinical authorities" led him to suppress his writings, although they have happily resurfaced.

Berekiyah says that he began writing his tale in the Hebrew year 5267, corresponding to the Christian year 1507. The Jews had been expelled from Spain in 1492. Portuguese Jews were forcibly converted to Christianity in 1497, but in 1506, some 2,000 of these New Christians, suspected of secretly observing Jewish rites, were massacred in an orgy of fire and blood.

Berekiyah's story takes place during several days of Passover that year, during and just after the massacre. His Uncle Abraham, whom he calls "my master," is found murdered in the hidden cellar synagogue of the family house in the old Lisbon Jewish quarter. The rest of the story involves Berekiyah's investigation of the crime and his effort to find and punish the perpetrators.

The murder scene, as investigated by Berekiyah, is both intriguing and disturbing. Next to Abraham is a naked young girl, also stabbed to death. Semen is found on the uncle's thigh, so it looks as if he had been engaging in illicit

fornication when he was killed. The door to the cellar had been bolted from inside when Berekiyah broke into the room and discovered the corpses, so how did the murderer make his way out? The throats of both victims had been cut just below the windpipe, as if by a shobet, a Jewish ritual slaughterer.

"Had a traitorous New Christian led the followers of the Nazarene to my uncle, then slit his throat?" he wonders. "I pictured a Dominican friar rousing the mob to break into our cellar, my master taken and handed over to this Jewish mercenary like a sacrificial lamb."

We do in the end learn who killed Uncle Abraham and the young girl, but not before Zimler has taken us on a colorful journey through Lisbon, phantasmagorically caught up in the ritual of slaughtering Jews.

Among the cast of characters, most of them secret Jews, are a priest named Carlos, several members of a secret cabalist group assembled by Abraham to smuggle Hebrew texts out of Portugal and a presumed nobleman, the Count of Almira, who seems, like others in this story, to have a keen interest in ancient Hebrew texts. The murdered Abraham himself was a renowned manuscript illustrator, and Berekiyah finds clues to the murder in his illustrations of a Haggadah, the Passover prayer book, in which some of the characters of the novel are portrayed as biblical figures.

And then there are here and there some fragments of cabalistic lore: "Books are created from holy letters," Berekiyah tells a certain Dom Miguel. "Just as angels are, according to some. Viewed from this perspective — through a window of cabala, if you like — an angel is nothing but a book given heavenly form."

As Zimler brings us to the conclusion of his "translation" of Berekiyah's rediscovered text, it is passages like this one, little riffs of mysticism and Jewish lore, that give his book its special and endearing character.

New York Times Service

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

THE final of the Vivendi Rosenblum Cup for Open Teams, in which Italy defeated Brazil by 79 imps, was an anticlimax after the drama of the semifinal stage. Brazil survived against Sweden after being tied with three deals remaining.

Italy won by just 3 imps against the United States team of Bart Bramley, Sidney Lazard, Steve Gerner, Howard Weinstein, Bill Polack and Drew Casen. A key deal is shown in the diagram.

Bidding freak hands, especially when there is vigorous competitive action, requires guesswork rather than science. Alfredo Versace for Italy opened one spade and at his next turn took a wild shot at six hearts. He had heard his partner bid clubs, and the opponents hid diamonds to the five-level.

Lazard, who had played superbly in the match, had to make a crucial lead as West. He knew that at this vulnerability his partner, Bramley, might have six diamonds. To avoid a possible ruff-and-shuff, he led his spade 10.

Now South was able to ruff a diamond and lead a spade, after which he could not be prevented from using his spades. Two low spade ruffs in dummy could be managed, and the heart queen was the only trick for the defense. In the replay, the American North-South rested in four spades, and the Italian team gained 11 imps.

But if Lazard had made the obvious diamond lead, the play would have been vastly more complicated. The slam might have failed, letting the Americans advance to the final and perhaps a world title.

NORTH
♠ A
♥ 7 5
♦ 4
♣ A Q 8 6 5 4 2

WEST
♠ 10
♥ Q 10 9
♦ K J 10 8 6 3
♣ K 10 9

EAST (D)
♠ Q 8 7
♥ 10 5 3
♦ A 9 7 5 2
♣ J

SOUTH
♠ K J 5 4 3 2
♥ A K J 3 2
♦ 3
♣ 2

East and West were vulnerable.
The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠
5 ♠ 6 ♠ Pass Pass
West led the spade 10.

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TribTech

Faster and Cheaper Aren't Always Better, U.S. Space Agency Finds

By Warren E. Leary
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON—The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has been shifting its focus away from costly, large satellites and space probes, finding a number of successes with smaller, less expensive craft that exemplify its new "faster, better, cheaper" philosophy of doing business.

From its highly successful Pathfinder mission, which left a small robot rover on Mars, to new probes heading for asteroids and comets, and small satellites measuring tropical rainfall or atmospheric gases on Earth, the space agency says it has ample evidence that the streamlined approach is working.

Smaller, simpler spacecraft—combining cutting-edge technology, like miniature instruments, with inexpensive, off-the-shelf components—can maintain a steady pace of exploration as budgets decline and new billion-dollar missions, like the Hubble Space Telescope, are no longer feasible, the space agency says.

But what if faster, better, cheaper proves to be none of the above? What if the process of narrower program re-

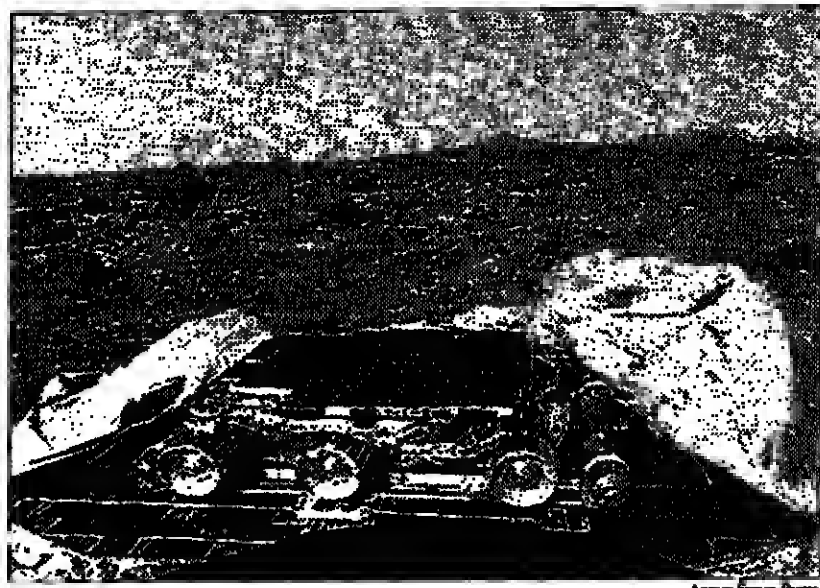
quirements, speedier, incentive-based contracts, more contractor responsibility and less government supervision or oversight fails to pay off? Then the government and the taxpayers could end up with Lewis and Clark—two satellites that were not among NASA's success stories.

A program announced in 1994, the Small Spacecraft Technology Initiative, should have resulted in the two satellites named for the 19th century American explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark orbiting Earth today, making detailed measurements of surface features and doing environmental sampling. Together, the two satellites were to demonstrate 55 new technologies and fly 7 major instruments developed by industry, university and government scientists.

Instead, Clark was never built, a victim of instrument problems, testing delays and rising costs. And Lewis, launched into orbit on Aug. 23, 1997, re-entered the atmosphere and burned up a month later.

Investigators said Lewis spun out of control and lost power because of flawed control system design and inadequate monitoring by ground controllers.

"Lewis and Clark were not high-



One success and one failure: In pursuit of its new "faster, better, cheaper" philosophy, NASA sent its Pathfinder mission to Mars, left, which was a stunning success in July 1997. But its Lewis satellite, above, fell out of orbit and burned up in the atmosphere after being sent into space a month later.

profile missions and didn't raise a lot of eyebrows when they failed," said Marcia Smith of the Congressional Research Service, "but they showed you can do faster, smaller, cheaper, but don't necessarily get better."

In announcing contracts for the two satellites in June 1994, the administrator of the space agency, Daniel Goldin, said the program put his "faster, better, cheaper" policy into practice. He called for the satellites to be developed and launched into orbit within 24 months at a cost of less than \$60 million each. Under this concept, the agency states the results it wants and leaves it up to the contractor with the winning bid to determine details, like design of the spacecraft, who will build what instruments and what rocket will be used to launch the finished craft.

"This is a new way of doing business for NASA," Mr. Goldin said then. "We told the industry what to do, not how to do it."

To safeguard the government's interests, contracts under the new program contain awards based on performance and disincentives for cost overruns that reduce fees if costs rise above certain levels, agency officials said. And if costs rise 15 percent above contract amounts, they said, programs face cancellation.

Ghassem Asrar, the agency's associate administrator for earth science, said a new way of doing business required a new management approach, one that did not require the constant scrutiny of projects.

But he said the experience with Lewis and Clark showed the agency that it had gone too far in relinquishing oversight

of the projects to keep costs down.

"There is a general perception in industry and Congress that the government having too much oversight adds time and money to projects," Mr. Asrar said. "But we discovered the hard way that it's not always true. We learned we stepped too far back."

A \$59 million contract for Lewis went to TRW Inc., calling for a 600-pound satellite with a three-year design life. It would carry two advanced imaging instruments that would allow monitoring the planet in unprecedented detail.

A \$50 million contract for Clark went to CTA Inc., a technology company that was acquired last year by the Orbital Sciences Corp., which designs and makes rockets, satellites and other space-related products. Clark, similar in dimensions to Lewis, was to carry instruments to measure and map global air pollution from space, and an X-ray astronomy experiment.

Engineers familiar with Clark said the project ran into problems when subcontractors had trouble building and testing some instruments that proved more technically complex than expected. In addition, they said, a number of subcontractors were acquired by other companies during the development period, and personnel changes, combined sometimes with cost-cutting mea-

sures or relocating of sites, resulted in schedule delays.

Because regular reporting to NASA was not required and each satellite program had only one person at NASA headquarters monitoring it instead of a team, the agency was not aware of many problems with Clark until last year, when it initiated several reviews, officials said.

The agency terminated the Clark mission in February, citing launching schedule delays and rising costs.

Lewis had a different set of problems, but shared one with Clark.

Both contractors selected the same new rocket to launch their satellites, the Lockheed Martin Launch Vehicle. Development of the rocket was delayed for two years when it went out of control on its first flight in 1995.

TRW delivered Lewis on time, and the total cost to NASA ended up being \$64.8 million, within contract terms.

In a report issued in June, an independent failure review board told the space agency that Lewis had failed because the attitude control system used to keep it stable in space was flawed in design and testing.

TRW adapted the design from that of another spacecraft, but did not adequately take in consideration that Lewis was oriented in space differently from the other satellite. As a result, the control system could not sense some of

the satellite's spinning motion and failed to correct it.

Joanne Maguire, vice president of TRW's space and laser program division, said the company reviewed its procedures after the failure and was updating several.

"The lessons learned from Lewis are paying dividends to all of our programs," Ms. Maguire said.

Mr. Asrar of NASA said the agency was ultimately responsible for assuring that project objectives were met and "our assurance process was ineffective in this case."

The agency's Office of the Chief Engineer is putting together a "lessons learned" report on Lewis and Clark, as well as other "faster, better, cheaper" projects, in hope of finding the optimal way to manage them, he said.

The agency is moving toward what he called "light touch management" for such programs, which includes two major reviews during the course of each project and not giving contractors so much autonomy. This is in contrast to old-style project management, which often included a half-dozen reviews and daily interaction with NASA, he said.

"This process is new, and we are still learning," Mr. Asrar said.

For information about NASA programs, see:

www.nasa.gov

TECHNOLOGY INDEX

A glance at technology stock indexes around the world

North America	Tuesday close	% change previous week	% change year to date
Pacific Stock Exchange Technology	317.25	6.04	9.19
Standard & Poor's Technology Composite	876.80	1.46	25.27
Europe			
Morgan Stanley Eurotech	596.53	1.05	54.86
Asia			
Topix Electric	1519.64	5.96	-7.57

Sources: Morgan Stanley, Bloomberg News

For technology articles from the past week, see the Technology Index on the IHT's World Wide Web site at <http://www.ihnt.com>. Articles include:

- Microsoft's Defense: Rivals Do What We Did, Sept. 11
- Web Lets Americans Judge Clinton's Behavior Instantly, Sept. 12-13
- Aling Toshiba to Cut 6,000 Jobs, Sept. 12-13
- Internet's Historic Day, Sept. 13
- Toshiba Gives Up on Plan to Acquire Ciena, Sept. 15
- NTT Mobile to List Its Shares in IPO Valued at 1 Trillion Yen, Sept. 15
- Intel Looks to Broaden Focus Beyond Chips, Sept. 16
- Thomson-CSF Plans Major Restructuring, Sept. 16

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www.hkreal.com
MERCURY CONDOMS
www.mercurycondoms.com
NATIONAL ESTATE SERVICES
www.nationalestate.com
PACIFIC ISLAND INVESTMENTS
www.pacificisland.com
PARK AGENCY INTERNATIONAL
www.parkagency.com
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www.careerpath.com
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www.internetphone.com
INTERNET PHONE COMPANY
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NEW WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS
www.newworldtele.com
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CONCERT and specialty tours of France
www.concertand.com
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www.manhattanlodging.com
PARIS IN SITE: Welcome Internet
<http://www.parisin-site.com>
RHODE SCHOOL OF COBBLE
www.rhode-school.com
Website Development
www.ac-arrow.com

A REAL DEAL FOR INTEL: In an agreement announced Wednesday, Intel Corp. said it would license its advanced video-compressor software to Real Networks Inc., a developer of programs that deliver audio and video over the Internet.

Beyond the expectation that Intel's technology will improve the performance of Real Networks' software, the deal is seen as further evidence of growing cracks in the so-called Intel duopoly, the cooperative relationship under which Intel's microprocessors and Microsoft Corp.'s operating systems have long dictated the direction of the personal-computer industry.

In the Real Networks deal, Intel is sharing its technology with a Microsoft competitor in an area that is thought to be crucial to the future commercialization of the Internet.

Real Networks says that about 30 million people now use its software. That is believed to give it a substantial lead over Microsoft, which developed a competing technology, known as Netshow, then hedged its bets by paying tens of millions of dollars for an equity stake in Real Networks.

Although the Intel-Real Networks deal does not include an Intel investment, both companies are calling it "strategic." Intel will license its compression technology for use in the newest version of Real Networks' multimedia software, RealVideo GE, which is now testing. Real Networks' "streaming" software delivers audio or video in a stream of bits as it is being heard or watched. (NYT)

CHINA PREPARES TO LEAP FORWARD: The government has drawn up plans to address the millennium bug problem, the official Xinhua news agency reported Wednesday.

The China Securities Exchange Commission has ordered the stock markets in Shanghai and Shenzhen and the country's securities firms to "undertake an exercise in which they turn their computers' clocks forward to Jan. 1, 2000, to see whether the machines operate normally."

The exchange commission has scheduled four comprehensive test runs for the securities and futures industries, and companies that fail to pass the test will be deprived of their licenses, the Xinhua report said.

The "2000 bug" stems from the inability of older computer systems to deal with four-digit years in dates.

The machines are expected to malfunction when they mistake the first day of the next century for Jan. 1, 1900.

Xinhua said the State Council this month released a timetable calling for the government to fix its systems by March 31 and to complete a series of checks and tests by September 1999. (AFP)

PALMTOP: Hewlett-Packard Co. unveiled the latest of its "information appliances," a handheld device that scans and stores documents so they can be sent via electronic mail.

The CapShare 910 is aimed at business travelers who need to transmit copies of contracts, newspaper articles or receipts to their offices.

The CapShare, which will sell for \$699, is part of the company's effort to increase its information-appliance business as computer sales slow. Hewlett-Packard is also trying to find more uses for its extensive printer and scanner technology. (Bloomberg)

FLATTER AND CLEARER: International Business Machines Corp. will announce that it has achieved a

breakthrough in computer-monitor technology, a flat-panel screen that produces four times the resolution of other desktop monitors.

The "quad-resolution display screen produces images as discernible as—and in some cases clearer than—they are when printed on

TribTech

Phoning on the Net: Frustrating but Cheap

By Thomas Crampton
International Herald Tribune

BANGKOK — For \$199 each, the Singapore-based company Innomedia sells a small gray box that sits under the telephone and allows you to call people with a corresponding unit, long-distance via Internet, virtually for free. Simple to set up, the system works from almost any country in the world, and for many users the unit would easily pay for itself in less than a month based on the savings.

So why shouldn't everyone buy Innomedia's Internet phone?

Unpredictable delays. In a series of tests conducted from Thailand making Infotalk calls to Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan and the United States, the delay between finishing a sentence and hearing the response was at least five seconds.

At its worst — in calls between Thailand and Malaysia — the delay lasted as

long as 30 seconds, forcing callers to punctuate the end of each sentence with a CB radio-style "over."

To be fair, telephoning between Asian countries via Internet pushes the technology to the limits. Some countries

in the region have national firewalls, and most do not have direct Internet links with one another, forcing calls to be routed via the United States.

Calls made to the United States or within countries with good Internet infrastructure can have delays of less than a second but still face the fundamental weakness that the Internet was not actually designed for talking.

While a standard phone call effectively wires together two telephones, sounds sent via the Internet are broken into morsels of data that are sent separately, like packages through a postal system. Once enough packages arrive at

the other end, they are reassembled into sounds.

When the Internet is clogged with too much data, some packages get delayed. The quality of Internet calls within the United States, for example, noticeably

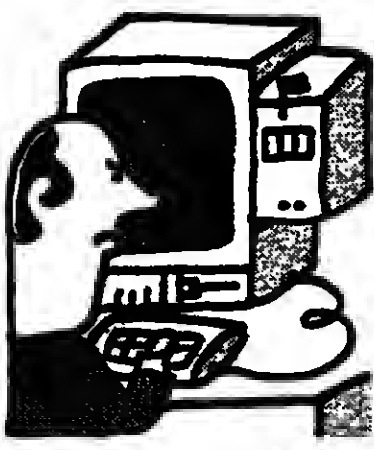
declines each afternoon as thousands of high school and university students return home from classes and log onto the Web.

Long-distance telephone companies that use the Internet try to send their calls along the least crowded routes.

Infotalk uses a proprietary data compression method and the unit's 2-megabyte memory buffer to speed up and smooth out voice transmission. When Internet traffic is heavy, voices stop abruptly in midsentence for a moment before picking up again, much like a needle being lifted off a record momentarily.

Improved methods of routing data could eventually give Internet phone calls better quality than normal international calls.

Unpredictable delays are still a major problem.



Steven Goldschlager

Internet resources, "rather than have the Internet be on an uneconomic basis."

He also raised another possibility: "It is possible that advertisers would be willing to pay our e-mail bills. I'm simply saying that there should be e-mail bills to be paid."

His take on the future is worth some thought. But those who oppose metering the Net, take heart. It will be some time before anyone can come up with a system able to handle a pay-as-you-go Internet. Mr. Metcalfe estimated that it would take about 10 years.

Mr. Metcalfe stressed that it wouldn't be the government being paid the e-postage, but rather the mail servers and Internet service providers.

Victoria Shannon can be e-mailed at vshannon@aol.com.

ALT/Commentary

Sending E-Mail - and Paying Postage?

By Victoria Shannon
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — At a technology forum here last week, a lot of experts gave a lot of prognostications about the future of the Internet.

Bill Gates of Microsoft Corp. talked about Windows taking over the world of Internet appliances. Scott McNealey of Sun Microsystems Inc. ventured that Java would take over the world of Net operating systems, and Ray Lane of Oracle Corp. predicted that network computers would simply take over the world.

But the most controversial forecast, perhaps deliberately so, came from Bob Metcalfe, an industry pioneer and legend, during the last half-hour of the three-day International Data Corp. conference.

Mr. Metcalfe's name might be familiar as the guy who invented Ethernet, a networking technology that helped transform computing. Perhaps he is better known as the founder of 3Com Corp., the telecommunications equipment company. But in the future, he may be associated with the idea of a pay-as-you-go Internet. That's what he thinks the Net needs to evolve into. "We need to pay postage on the e-mails

that we send," he said at the conference. "We need to pay for the Web downloads that we do. We need to pay for the bandwidth we consume. And paying flat fees for all of this is not a sound basis for an economically viable Internet."

He would like to eliminate the ubiquitous \$19.95-a-month, all-you-can-eat charges people have become accustomed to in favor of metered Internet use. The idea would be considered blasphemous to the early adopters of the Internet, who believed it would be a free international network for research and communications. But the World Wide Web has, since its 1991 beginnings, instead become a lure for people and companies who see it as a conduit for commerce.

"Most of us are very negative about metering because we've lived in a world dominated by telephone companies," said Mr. Metcalfe, who is a vice president at International Data Corp. But he argued that paying for each minute of use is not what people resent; rather, he said, it is the phone companies' charging "extraordinarily high prices" that "really upsets us."

Mr. Metcalfe is hypothesizing that a pay-as-you-go Internet would involve "micro" prices and payments, tiny fractions of a cent per e-mail or down-

load. He sees two critical benefits to this system.

"One is that paying as you go deters waste," he said. "One reason that we have spam today is that it costs nothing to send spam," he added, using the industry slang for junk e-mail. "One way to really cut back on spam is to charge e-postage."

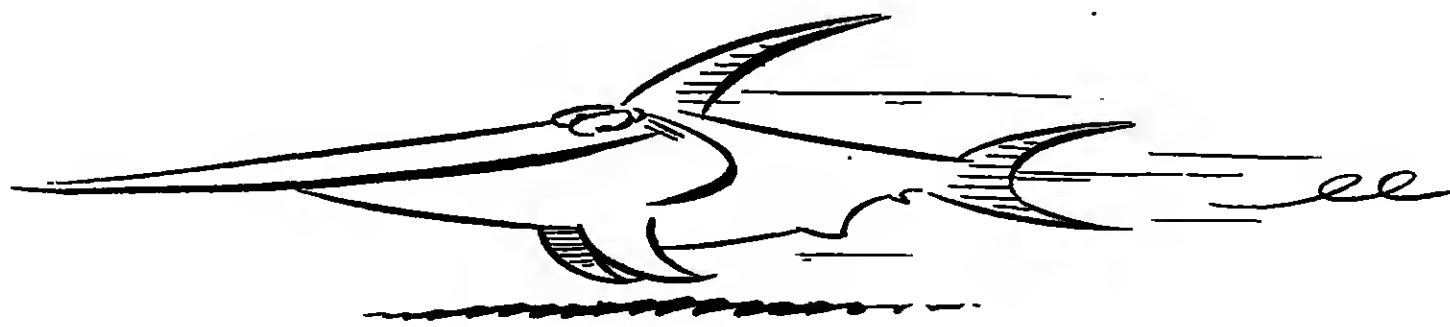
The other major reward, he said, "is that we could fund capacity growth." The Internet's capacity "needs to be growing," he said, "and if people pay for what they use, then that's classic communication between supply and demand."

"You'll often hear people say that the Internet wouldn't exist if postage had been charged on e-mail all these years," he said, but he added, "We don't have to keep running it the way we did when it first started."

It's easy to argue with his premise. Won't this make the Internet inaccessible to the world's poorer citizens?

That, he says, would be like arguing that we shouldn't use money at all because it creates inequities.

Instead, he proposes to solve the haves vs. have-nots problem a different way, perhaps by giving money to the have-nots so they can buy In-



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INTERNATIONAL

German Opposition Takes a Spin

By Edmund L. Andrews
New York Times Service

FRANKFURT — Until recently, Detmar Karpinski's biggest accomplishment was advertising Lucky Strike cigarettes. Today, he is producing one of the slickest and most American-style political advertising campaigns that Germany has ever seen.

Hired by the Social Democratic Party and its candidate for chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, Mr. Karpinski has created a media campaign that is an artful dance between cozy images of a happy Germany and edgy criticism of Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

A commercial playing in movie theaters shows four astronauts in a Star Trek setting about to be "beamed" to another planet. When the beaming is over, one astronaut is left behind and he turns out to be a corpulent and befuddled Mr. Kohl. The message: the 68-year-old chancellor is "not ready for the future."

In a blitz on television, on billboards and in glossy magazines, Social Democratic ads combine images of gauzy warmth with a sneaky punchline. Billboard posters, aimed at a provocative look at cuts in health care, show a blond boy whose smile reveals a missing tooth. "We don't want to sell the difference between rich and poor just through a smile," reads the caption.

A magazine ad centers on an aging, framed photograph of children and the slogan: "You should have more in your retirement than memories."

These and a barrage of other ads mark a major departure from the dull and didactic fare that have usually graced German political campaigns. They are also a far cry from the old-school ads for Mr. Kohl, whose most ubiquitous campaign poster features his picture and the slogan "World Class for Germany."

Mr. Schröder and his campaign managers have adopted techniques used by Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton and Tony Blair. They have focused relentlessly on feelings rather than facts. They have carefully honed their themes based on market research. And they began mapping their strategy more than 18 months ago, before Mr. Schröder even became the party's official candidate in the election, which is set for Sept. 27.

"The SPD had an image that was somewhat old-fashioned and needed to be modernized," said Mr. Karpinski, creative director for KNSK-BBDO, a Hamburg advertising agency, referring to the Social Democrats. "One had the impression that they didn't really want to win an election, that they just wanted to be in the opposition."

Advertising plays a much smaller role in Germany than in the United States. The Social Democrats say they are spending about 40 million Deutsche marks (\$23.7 million) on paid advertising, though Mr. Kohl's party, the Christian Democrats, insist the spending is much greater. Their own spending, they say, is about \$30 million.

But the Social Democrats say they have systematically used advertising, some-

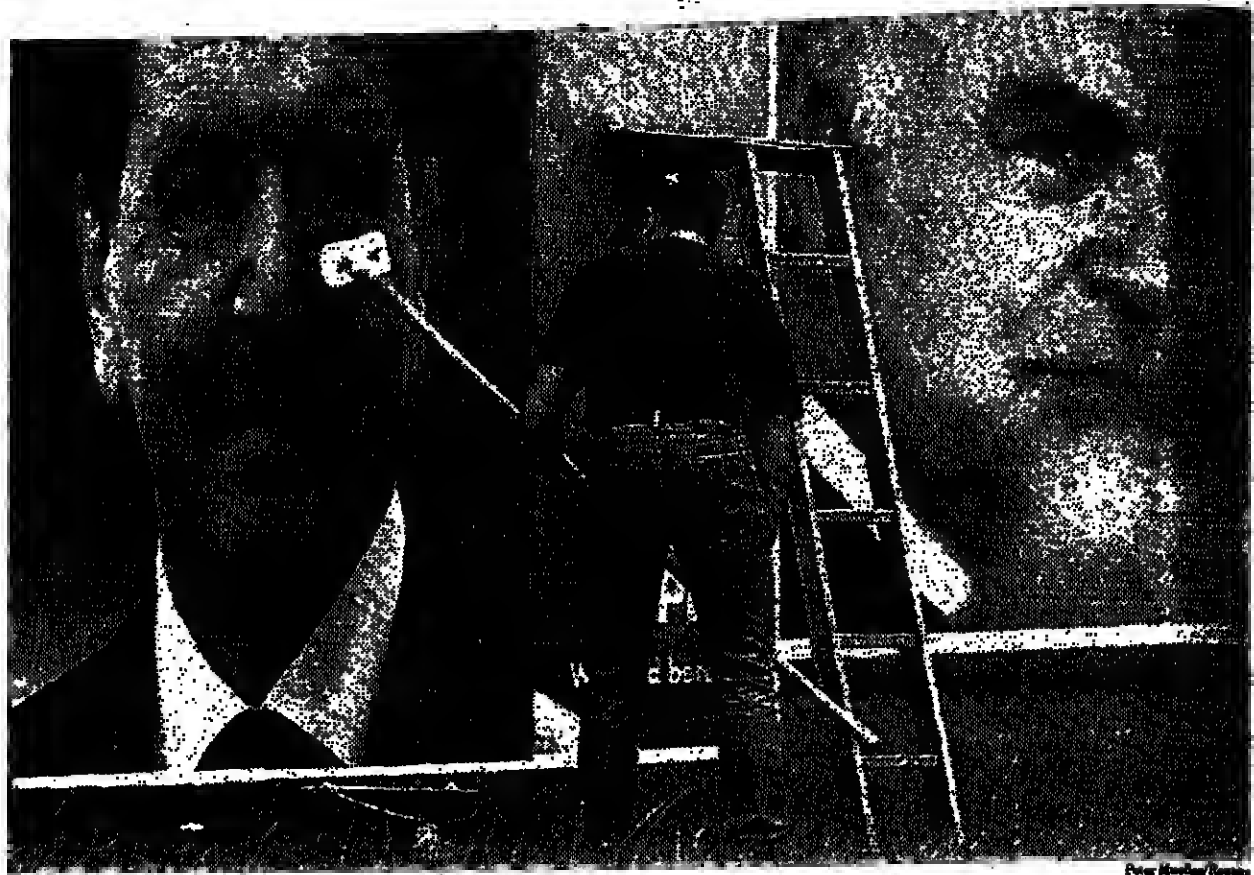
times to illustrate a new stylishness. The clever and fast-paced advertising is meant to appeal to younger and more video-savvy voters who have grown up watching MTV. Indeed, party officials used the first wave of campaign posters for the sole purpose of showing them to journalists.

Negative political advertising has been almost nonexistent here. Though Germany's high unemployment rate under Mr. Kohl is the Social Democrats' most important theme, party officials say that attack ads would have alarmed voters.

Instead, Mr. Karpinski has produced a campaign loaded with happy images and with a critical message at the end. One television ad describes the things people strive for and shows families and children, hikers and bicyclists, playgrounds and modern factories. The screen then abruptly goes black, and a message reads: "But 4 million unemployed Germans can't."

"Negative advertising can work, but it would be wrong in this country," said Mr. Karpinski. "We didn't want to frighten people with attack ads. We wanted to make them comfortable with the party, so the images you see are always positive and optimistic."

Indeed, Mr. Kohl and the Christian Democrats briefly tried negative advertising but quickly retreated. Known as the "red-handed" campaign, Christian Democratic billboards warned that the Social Democrats might join forces with the successor to East Germany's old Communist Party, the Party of Democratic Socialism.



A worker in Hannover pasting up a campaign poster for Gerhard Schröder, the Social Democratic candidate.

In Poll, Kohl Narrows the Gap With Schröder

Reuters

BONN — Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats narrowed the gap with Gerhard Schröder's Social Democrats, to three points from five points, according to a survey of voters by the Infratest-Dimap institute released Wednesday.

The poll of 1,100 voters showed that the Christian Democrats had risen one percentage point from a week earlier, to 38 percent of the vote.

The Social Democrats dropped one point, to 41 percent.

The poll was the second survey published since the Christian Social Union, Mr. Kohl's Bavarian sister party, scored a solid victory in a state election in Bavaria on Sunday.

A survey by the Forsa institute, published Tuesday, had Mr. Kohl's party cutting the gap from six percentage points to three — also 41 percent to 38 percent. Mr. Kohl has trailed Mr.

Schröder by up to 12 percentage points in surveys over the last six months.

Mr. Kohl is running for a fifth term as chancellor in the Sept. 27 election.

The popularity of Mr. Kohl's coalition partners, the Free Democrats, was unchanged at 5 percent, while the Greens, a likely coalition partner of the Social Democrats, were steady at 7 percent. The Party of Democratic Socialism, the former East German Communist party, was unchanged at 4 percent.

DUB: A Strike Silences the Voices of Movies and Television in Italy

Continued from Page 1

try to recruit nonunion dubbers from northern Italy but would not release the movies with subtitles.

"Italians aren't used to seeing movies in the original version," he said. "They just won't go."

Dubbing in Italy has its own odd history. In the 1930s, the Fascist government required that foreign films be dubbed to drown out the sound of the enemy language. After the war, John Wayne Westerns and American comedies flooded Europe. But particularly in Italy, where the literacy rate was very low, audiences could not read subtitles.

Italian dubbers consider themselves artists on a par and sometimes better than many of the movie stars they serve.

The strikers complain that since the advent of private television networks, the demand for dubbing has increased, and so has the number of dubbers. Quality lost out to quantity, as companies scrambled to dub countless soap operas, sitcoms and old movies, hiring anyone who would work for less than the going rate, as much as 30 percent below the minimum union wage.

Major movie studios still hire the top professionals to do the voices of Tom Hanks or Jack Nicholson. But when it comes to television and commercials, the

strikers say, smaller companies are less scrupulous. Most of the production companies say they are willing to increase fees but so far have balked at signing a labor contract and promising royalties.

Time and mass culture may be on the strikers' side. Even young moviegoers drenched in American pop culture are reluctant to see films with subtitles.

"I studied English in school but I still don't know it well enough to watch a movie," said Ludovica Gasparini, a university freshman, as she emerged from seeing Wes Craven's latest horror movie, "Scream 2," in Italian. "I would hate to see it with subtitles and think that I was missing something beautiful."

ECONOMY: Greenspan Plays Down Talk of Global Cut in Rates

Continued from Page 1

percent during the afternoon. Brazil, which has seen significant outflows of money in recent days, was hurt both by the warning of a global rate cut and by Mr. Rubin's refusal to confirm that there are plans to help the country defend its currency, the real.

In response to a question from Mr. LaFollette, who asked if the United States would "draw the line in Brasilia" to "arrest any further devaluation" in the real, Mr. Rubin said, "I think it is probably premature to comment on specifics."

He did say that Brazil, whose large economy is important to Latin American

stability, "has been subject to intense focus."

Brazil's financial markets also had been encouraged by reports that its finance minister, said the International Monetary Fund and the Group of Seven industrial nations were considering a \$26 billion line of credit to Latin American countries. Bloomberg News quoted the minister, Pedro Malan, as saying from Brasilia that the credit would be made available to calm investor concern that Latin American nations might default on their obligations, as Russia recently did.

Much of the presentations by Mr. Greenspan and Mr. Rubin consisted of calls to developing countries to reform their economies. Mr. Rubin said the eco-

nomic crisis that began last summer in Thailand "has now affected countries around the globe."

He added that while there are differences from nation to nation, "there have been some common deep-seated problems, usually, but not always, centering on badly flawed financial systems."

Mr. Greenspan warned against compounding existing problems by imposing capital controls in an effort to limit the effect of financial speculation.

"Endeavors now to block repatriation of foreign funds, while offering temporary cash flow relief, have significant long-term costs and clearly should be avoided, if at all possible," Mr. Greenspan said.

Mr. Rubin lobbied the representatives to increase U.S. funding to the IMF, although he admitted that the administration "has been focused for some time now on the need for reforms" at the international lending agency. Several of the committee members criticized the IMF for imposing inappropriate programs on some indebted countries and wasting money on its support of Russia.

The Treasury secretary also said that "the rest of the world looks to the United States, as the world's indispensable nation, to show global leadership at times like these."

That statement came as President Bill Clinton is beset by problems relating to his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, a former White House intern, and could have been an attempt to focus attention on global problems.

In fact, Mr. Clinton hinted on Monday that he favored a reduction of interest rates, repeating an earlier warning from Mr. Greenspan that the United States could not be "an oasis of prosperity" in an unsettled world. That comment was referenced several times in the question-and-answer session after Mr. Greenspan and Mr. Rubin made their statements.

SAFETY: U.S. Crash Investigation Methods Are Popular Export

Continued from Page 1

the negative publicity that surrounded the botched investigation of the 1985 crash of a charter aircraft filled with U.S. troops at Gander, Newfoundland.

The Canadian board's engineering laboratory in Ottawa, which is examining the cockpit voice recorder and flight data recorder of the Swissair plane, is recognized as one of the best in the world.

The well-traveled Mr. Feith is the leader of a team of U.S. investigators who are aiding the Canadian government. Under International Civil Aviation Organization rules, the United States has been included in the inquiry because the flight originated in the United States and the Swissair plane, a McDonnell Douglas MD-11, was U.S.-built.

Most of the 10-member U.S. team arrived a couple of hours after dawn on the morning after the crash, hours before the official Canadian team, which actually had farther to travel.

The Americans pitched in to help two regional Canadian safety board investigators who were all but lost amid the mass of Canadian Coast Guard and Royal Canadian Mounted Police rescuers, volunteer fishing boat crews, and others who had turned the coastal hamlet of Peggy's Cove into a scene of chaos. Off the coast, underneath 180 feet (55 meters) of water, lay the wreckage of a crash that promises to be one of the most complicated investigations of the jet age.

The U.S. safety board has had a lot of

experience lately with underwater crashes, including the fiery plunge of Valujet Flight 592 into the Florida Everglades, and the explosion of Trans World Airlines Flight 800 over the Atlantic Ocean, both in 1996.

Major airline crashes in Canada have been rare. The last crash of a large airliner before Swissair 111 was in 1985 at Gander.

As in many U.S.-Canadian matters, diplomacy is necessary to avoid feelings that the big country to the south is attempting to take over the Swissair investigation. For the most part, the U.S. team has made no public show of its presence, a standard operating procedure in foreign countries.

Still, Mr. Feith, with his classic good looks, sometimes inadvertently creates a sideshow to the investigations, drawing fan mail from women who want to meet him. Mr. Feith gained a nickname he will never live down during the Valujet investigation when the Miami news media began calling him "the Mud Stud."

The rest of the team may not be as high-profile as Mr. Feith, but its investigators have perhaps 150 years of aviation and investigative experience among them.

One of them, Frank Hilldrup, will be doing the same job in Nova Scotia that he did in the TWA 800 investigation, living aboard the U.S. Navy salvage ship Grapple, examining every piece of wreckage that he hauls from the deep.

Jeff Guzzetti, an aircraft systems spe-

cialist, is on shore to help coordinate the investigation as pieces arrive. John O'Callahan is an aircraft performance engineer who will help determine exactly how the plane acted in the air, combining radar, radio and flight data recorder information.

One of the world's experts in flight data recorders, Dennis Grossi, is in Ottawa at the Canadian safety board's engineering lab, helping read out the data recorder that was recovered on Sunday. Mr. Grossi will help the Canadians create a computer animation of the plane's final descent.

Two former MD-11 pilots, Paul Misencik and David Tew, were included in the group.

And rounding out the team were three family aid specialists, Gary Abe, Sharon Bryson and Frank Ciacio. They left after a few days when it became apparent that the Canadians and Swissair were doing well in handling family matters.

BRIEFLY

U.S. Editors Object To Effort to Draft A Journalist 'Code'

WASHINGTON — American newspaper editors are protesting an international journalism conference in Turkey this weekend as "hostile to press freedom" because it aims to come up with a worldwide code of ethics for journalists.

But the chief organizer at the World Association of Press Councils, Oktay Elksi, a Turkish journalist, says he bates government interference with the press as much as Americans do and is offended by the Americans' response.

Mr. Elksi accused the American Society of Newspaper Editors on Tuesday of trying to stop the conference without understanding its goals.

The conference is to open in Istanbul on Saturday. (AP)

Colombian Assails A Political Murder

BOGOTA — President Andres Basteza has denounced the murder of a leading congressman, calling it a chilling act of violence that robbed Colombia of a dedicated public servant and patriot.

The police said gunmen on a motorcycle had shot Jorge Humberto Gonzalez, head of the Labor Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, as he sat in an all-terrain vehicle at a red light in central Medellin.

The gunman sped off, and Mr. Gonzalez died in a hospital. (AP)

Israel Sees Hate In Egypt's Media

JERUSALEM — On the 20th anniversary of its breakthrough peace accord with Egypt, Israel issued a report Wednesday on what it said was pervasive anti-Semitism in the Egyptian media.

The 11-page document, produced by the Government Press Office, said that anti-Semitic stereotypes, comparisons of Israel with Nazi Germany and a denial of the Holocaust campaign to kill Jews in World War II were recurring themes in the official Egyptian press. (AP)

Mystery of Jupiter Rings Solved

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Images from NASA's Galileo spacecraft have revealed for the first time the process by which nature decorates some planets with rings, scientists reported.

The pictures show that Jupiter's swirling rings, which are not visible from Earth, are being fed with dust kicked up by a rain of meteoroids, streaking in at 100 times the speed of a .22-caliber bullet and bombarding the surfaces of the giant planet's four tiny inner moons, Metis, Admetos, Amalthea and Thebe.

The inner moons, ranging from 16 to 106 miles (25 to 170 kilometers) in

diameter, "have so little gravity that when something hits them, stuff comes flying off," a Galileo scientist, Joseph Veverka of Cornell University, said in an interview Tuesday.

Researchers from Cornell and the National Optical Astronomy Observatories in Tucson, Arizona, presented the findings at a Cornell briefing carried live on the Internet.

Scientists have speculated for centuries about the origin of planetary rings, particularly the more flamboyant and easily seen system that encircles Saturn, another giant gas planet. Now, at least for Jupiter, they know the answer.

ASIA: Recession and Its Woes Deepening

Continued from Page 1

its pace of growth for the first half of 1998 slowed to an official 7 percent, the lowest since 1991.

The Chinese government tried to maintain its 8 percent growth target for this year — in part with a plan to increase home ownership across the country — but had to scale back that ambition because of the fallout from the surrounding region.

Even Taiwan, which has become an important potential source of capital throughout the region, now predicts its growth will reach 5.3 percent, compared with 6.8 percent in 1997.

The agony of Indonesia is virtually in a class of its own.

Millions are slipping below the poverty line. In the first half of this year, Indonesia's economy was officially estimated to have shrunk on an annual basis, by 12.2 percent. For the year, the government says the fall in output is expected to be 13 percent, but private economists say it could be as severe as 20 percent.

Falling currencies make the declines much more stark in dollar terms. While all the statistics at this point are somewhat dubious, the Indonesian government has said that in dollar terms, output per person is expected to fall to \$436 in 1998, from \$1,055 in 1997.

"I don't think Europeans or Amer-

icans could really understand how bad things are," said Simon Mahadevan Flint, a Singapore-based economist who is head of research at IDEA, an independent economic consulting group. The Indonesians, he said, "are experiencing massive contractions in the economy from an already low base, with extensive discrepancies between rich and poor."

People who had moved out of mud huts and into wooden shacks as the economy surged have now been thrown back into the fields, he said.

Indonesia's economic crisis has been compounded by political turmoil, which in turn has brought about deeper economic troubles. The banking system has essentially halted. Many corporations simply cannot repay their loans, and those that can are not doing so, partly because the banks to which they owe money may not be around much longer.

The result is that bad debts are swelling to as much as one-fourth of all loans, according to some economists.

In such a chaotic environment, relying on traditional economic measures is extremely difficult. Official figures for unemployment in Indonesia have not been made public recently, but economists working from anecdotal evidence say it is skyrocketing and could reach 25 percent or perhaps even 40 percent of the labor force in urban areas next year.

Ugandans to Stay in Congo

Museveni Criticizes Kabila for Relying on Other Foreigners

The Associated Press

KAMPALA, Uganda — Ugandan troops will remain in neighboring Congo to protect Uganda's security interests, despite protests from Kinshasa, President Yoweri Museveni said Wednesday.

"Our troops will remain there until there is a regionally agreed model for peace," General Museveni told Parliament in addressing legislators' concerns about the role of Ugandan troops in the six-week-old Congo rebellion.

President Laurent Kabila of Congo claims that Uganda and Rwanda are behind the revolt. Both countries deny direct involvement in the uprising of disgruntled military officers, including ethnic Tutsi who were instrumental, along with Rwanda, in the rebellion that put Mr. Kabila in power in 1997.

The current rebels accuse Mr. Kabila of nepotism and corruption.

General Museveni, himself the leader of a five-year bush war that brought him to power in 1986, criticized Mr. Kabila for calling in troops from Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia to save the Congolese capital, Kinshasa, from capture by the rebels.

"We have been facing a lot of problems during our time in power, but we never called in foreigners," he said.

General Museveni said Mr. Kabila must drop his opposition to peace talks with the rebels.

Mr. Kabila allowed Ugandan troops to enter northeastern Congo about a year ago to flush out Alliance of Democratic Forces rebels camped at the base of the Rwenzori Mountains. Those rebels were attacking western Uganda.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Urgent
3 A prisoner may enter one
5 Russia's Sea of
9 Omnium
10 garrison
14 — grudge (inhabited)
16 Slaying of
17 Thrashes
18 Perfectionist's
19 Progress
20 Fear an English philosopher's family?

23 40's war epic
24 "believe" in
25 1972 Broadway
27 1965 Peace Prize recipient
28 Showy
29 Seoul soldier
30 Latin conjugation
31 Gradually
32 Peace of mind
33 Anthology
34 Like a sleeping bag
35 Soler of soaps
36 Suffr with guitar
37 Dundee design
38 Take turns

39 Message parlor
40 Year in Marcus Aurelius's reign
41 Pulitzer-winning writer Alans
42 English philosopher not yet arrived?
43 White chip, often
44 Michael of
45 "Flashdance"
46 Hayworth's royal
47 hubby
48 Convey
49 Derby Stakes site
50 Chashim Trail town
51 C.O.N.T.R.O.L.
52 Spied problem
53 Put on

54 Fear of an ancient Greek philosopher?
55 Rain forest
56 Ten-year editor
57 Ben's procreator
58 W.W. II gen.
59 Mythical
60 woman
61 — passu (equally)
62 Orsk river
63 "Don't look at me!"
64 Declaration about
65 understanding a German philosopher?
66 Heaps
67 Hags who was a
68 Composition of some clouds
69 Borgia ex-law
70 Caboose
71 Tight tie
72 End of a German philosopher?
73 Overlay, in a way
74 Demosco alternative
75 Ab — (from day one)
76 Tied off
77 — National Forest, Ark.
78 Conquest of Crete
79 "Quo Vadis?" director Miryryn

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

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Solution to Puzzle of Sept. 16

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OREO EDICT KENO
SILO NORTH ULNA
HELLFIRE ALLOT
AEDN SULK
COSTAR CREEPUP
OTHER FLAG DRNO
STE SPARENO ITS
WELD EASY ERNIE
ORLEANS STEGES
STUNT POST
ACHED ULTREAT
NOON GOBBA AXLE
TACT AJICE CAVE
ELIKE LAGER YMAN

DOWN

1 Barfaced
2 Banned spray
3 Greenish
4 Subway tunnel
5 Communication
6 An Alexandrian
7 False hopes
8 Sognoles
9 One of the
10 Aleutians
11 Spots

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1998

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In Asia, Rethinking Free Markets

By Thomas Crampton
International Herald Tribune

BANGKOK — As economic pain mounts in the world's developing nations, political leaders are rethinking in growing numbers from their commitment to free-market trade and currency policies, economists and analysts warn. Increasingly, emerging economies in Asia and around the world are reconsidering their openness to global markets and wondering whether to take measures similar to those taken in Malaysia and Hong Kong in recent weeks, they say.

Political reasons will oblige governments with economic problems to step back a little bit to placate their constituents," said Supachai Panitchpakdi, Thailand's commerce minister, in an interview. "The danger is that once you start the ball rolling backwards or stalling liberalization, then others will follow suit. It becomes something like competitive devaluation."

Mr. Supachai said he supported the widely criticized currency controls recently imposed by Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad in Malaysia, calling them "reasonable" and "understandable."

He added: "There is some truth to what Mahathir is saying, that sometimes

there has been excessive speculative movement, not based on the weaknesses of our economies. I see it as a temporary measure."

Mr. Supachai is a highly respected economist in Asia and the West and is a contender to head the World Trade Organization, the Geneva-based free-trade body. His voice adds weight and credibility to the support expressed in the region for the capital curbs put in place by Malaysia.

But Mr. Supachai's is just one voice in a rising chorus.

"One must sympathize with Kuala Lumpur's effort to defend itself from what it sees as a kind of global laissez-faire capitalism which is going out of control," said Fidel Ramos, former president of the Philippines, in a speech early this week.

China offered praise Wednesday for Malaysia's tactics even as it vowed to stamp out speculation on its own currency. "We believe that it is understandable and permissible under international covenants for a nation to return to exchange controls briefly to reverse a serious worsening of the balance of payments," the spokesman for the State Administration of Foreign Exchange said, according to the People's Daily.

Capital controls also received a nod

of approval in the annual United Nations Trade and Development report that was released Wednesday.

"Controls will remain an indispensable part of developing countries' armory of measures for the purpose of protection against international financial instability," the report said.

The major industrial countries continue to oppose capital controls.

Gordon Brown, Britain's chancellor of the Exchequer, said Wednesday that developing countries taking unilateral actions toward financial markets as a substitute for reform would "damage the prospects for their own economies and the world system," a thinly veiled criticism of Malaysia.

But Mr. Brown, who was speaking to bankers in Tokyo, acknowledged that short-term capital flows could be "destabilizing." He urged developing countries to be more open in the conduct of their economic policy to enable foreign investors to better assess the risk of lending. He also said developing countries should exercise caution in liberalizing their economies and ensure that banking and financial systems were sound before opening up to the free flow of foreign capital.

A major international agency lent support to the idea of capital controls



Mr. Supachai, a widely respected economist, said he supported Malaysia's decision to impose currency controls.

Wednesday, however. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development said in its annual report that sound economic policies and prudent banking regulation and corporate governance had taken years to establish and could not insulate countries from speculative attacks, which are often

triggered by external events such as rises in U.S. interest rates.

The agency said capital controls "will remain an indispensable part of developing countries' armory" against financial instability. It also urged the International Monetary Fund to sanction debt standstill agreements for de-

veloping countries in crisis, similar to Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, which gives debtors a chance to reorganize their finances.

These views sharply contrast comments made by such champions of glob-

See TURMOIL, Page 18

A Key Reformer Is Said to Break With Primakov

By Celestine Bohlen
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — An outspoken proponent of free enterprise is reported to have left the Russian government, removing one of the last strong voices for free-market economics in the team being put together by Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov.

The status of the official, Boris Fyodorov, a former finance minister who returned to the government in the spring to spearhead an aggressive tax-collection drive, has been closely watched here and abroad as a clue to whether the Primakov government will represent a range of economic views or will tilt heavily toward policies favored by the Communists.

Mr. Fyodorov's departure was announced by Alexander Shokhin, a centrist who accepted a job Tuesday as deputy prime minister in charge of fi-

nances. In a televised interview Tuesday night, Mr. Shokhin said he would stay on only if he could influence government policy, especially to modify policies that, in his view, would lead to hyperinflation.

Mr. Fyodorov's office would not confirm the resignation. But he was not present at a meeting between Mr. Primakov and representatives of the International Monetary Fund.

In the last two weeks, while Russia was caught in political paralysis, Mr. Fyodorov, as acting deputy prime minister and a figure well known to Russia's Western partners, stepped forward with a program designed to ease the country gently to strict currency controls.

That program has since been dismissed as foolish by Russia's new central bank chairman, Viktor Gerashchenko, who regularly battled with Mr. Fyodorov over monetary policy. Four years ago, during Mr. Gerashchenko's

earlier spell as central bank chairman and when Mr. Fyodorov was finance minister.

On Tuesday, Mr. Gerashchenko reopened the dispute, saying he was in favor of printing more money to pay off months of unpaid wages. "We can't do without that," he said.

Mr. Primakov, accompanied by Mr. Shokhin, told representatives of the IMF that his government would not halt Russia's process of change but would adopt policies to protect social welfare and spur industrial production.

He also assured John Odling-Smee, the IMF official leading the talks with Russia, that Moscow intended to meet its domestic and foreign debts.

Signs that Russia will revert to inflationary policies have raised doubts about whether the IMF will deliver its next installment of \$4.3 billion in credits to Russia, this fall, part of a package approved in July during the early stage

of Russia's financial crisis.

At the government's request, a team of veteran Russian economists — advisers to Mikhail Gorbachev during the waning years of communism — has presented its economic plan, a plan that one Russian newspaper summarized as "emissions, emissions and more emissions" — meaning printing currency.

In his interview on television Tuesday night, Mr. Shokhin, a former economy minister and head of the party Our Home Is Russia in Parliament, said that a mass printing of rubles would be disastrous, leading to hyperinflation.

With each passing day, Russia's economic situation worsens as the ruble continues its wild gyrations and shops regularly sell out of goods.

"We are on the edge of a financial collapse," Mr. Shokhin said, noting that Russia's banking system is at a halt, with payments, salaries and tax collections frozen.

Russian Credit Rating Is Cut

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MOSCOW — Standard & Poor's Corp. on Wednesday cut its rating on Russian long-term foreign-currency debt for the fourth time since June, amid growing concern that the country will default on its dollar debt.

The ruble, meanwhile, suffered its biggest one-day decline ever, and the stock market fell to a record low.

S&P, a U.S.-based credit-rating concern, cut the rating to CCC-minus from CCC, reflecting the country's deteriorating ability to pay back debts denominated in foreign currencies as weakness in the ruble persists. The rating is nine steps below investment grade and below the ratings of countries such as Indonesia and Pakistan.

S&P has 10 levels of investment-grade ratings and 10 levels below investment grade, or "junk."

The dollar rose to 12.45 rubles from 11.95 rubles the day before, according to the Russian central bank rate. But

over the counter, banks traded the ruble at 13.50 to the dollar, hinting that more bad news was in store.

The benchmark RTS stock index closed down 3.17 points, more than 5 percent, at 58.86 points, a record low.

The new deputy prime minister of Russia, Alexander Shokhin, said the country was unlikely to receive further money from the International Monetary Fund. An IMF delegation is holding talks in Moscow on the dis-

bursal of a second installment of a \$22.6 billion loan package, but "the prospects of receiving the second tranche are not very rosy," Mr. Shokhin said.

As the ruble falls, prices are rising ever higher. After a monthly inflation rate of 15 percent in August, prices rose 43 percent in the first two weeks of September, the state statistical office said Wednesday. That suggests an annual rate of almost 1,500 percent. (Bloomberg, AFP)

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

Other CEOs Have Flings, Not Regrets

By Kirstin Downey Grimsley
and Jay Matthews
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — During their nightly mastication of the Clinton sex scandal, one army of television pundits argues that a business executive who behaved as the president did would be terminated immediately. Shouts from the other side: No, they say, the president is being singled out for punishment as no corporate chief would be.

In fact, American corporate bosses are typically forgiven for questionable sexual behavior, according to lawyers and management experts who specialize in harassment cases, and especially when it concerns consensual sex.

Even when sexual misdeeds qualify as harassment, executives often get away with the kind of behavior that changing mores have turned into a firing offense for workers lower down the food chain.

Although thousands of sexual harassment lawsuits have been filed nationwide, many including allegations of egregious misbehavior at top management levels, only a handful of chief executives have been dismissed as a result.

Though management experts are increasingly critical of liaisons involving top executives and subordinates are increasingly viewed as hurting — saying they hurt morale and can end sourly amid charges of sexual harassment or perceived favoritism — they concede that such affairs are almost impossible

to stamp out for deep-rooted biological, social and financial reasons.

"I don't know of any situation where there has been an extramarital affair, that is consensual and kept from the public, where it's been deemed inappropriate conduct for a leader," said Freida Klein, a consultant on sexual harassment.

When consensual sex involves older, powerful men and younger subordinate women, married or unmarried, the men are accorded boasting rights, not shame or humiliation.

"Based on what we've seen, with rare exceptions, nothing happens to the CEO," said Ellen Bravo, executive director of 9to5, National Association of Working Women, which tracks corporate sexual misbehavior cases. "He's too important."

No matter how serious the charges, "I've never seen a single CEO lose his job," said James (Bo) Bohus, a Louisville employment lawyer who has brought more than 100 sexual harassment cases.

Sexual involvement with a subordinate can even add to an executive's mystique. One of the most envied men in Silicon Valley is Larry Ellison, 54, chief executive of Oracle Corp. One of the richest men in California, he is the thrice-married lotario of the pocket-protector set, frequently attending business events with a young subordinate on his arm. Some of his relationships have been with Stanford University alumnae in their first real jobs.

Mr. Ellison has apparently suffered

no repercussions from his behavior and remains widely respected for his innovations in the computer industry. Oracle representatives declined to comment.

The tobacco giant Philip Morris Cos. enjoys a reputation for good management, but in a 1996 sexual harassment trial involving behavior at the company's cigarette plant in Louisville, the company conceded that extramarital hanky-panky had occurred.

Attorneys for the women bringing suit contended that widespread romantic liaisons between top executives at the plant and their female subordinates created an atmosphere in which low-level male workers felt similarly invited to request sexual favors. The lawyers presented evidence that at least 13 romantic liaisons occurred between top managers and lower-level women employees.

An attorney for Philip Morris, Douglas Becker, said in his opening statement that the company did not prohibit interoffice relationships. "Now you might say that's not a good business practice, and maybe not," he said. "That's the way we run our business."

Even costly sexual harassment lawsuits don't seem to unsettle executives. For decades, Dan Wassong, chief executive of the Long Island-based Del Laboratories Inc., was known inside the cosmetics company for his unusually aggressive personal manner. In 1992,

See SEX, Page 15

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

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Investor's Europe

**Frankfurt
DAX**

1998

**London
FTSE 100 Index**

1998

**Paris
CAC 40**

1998

Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Provisional Close	% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	1,027.54	1,014.70	+1.25
Brussels	BEL-20	3,222.37	3,228.78	-0.18
Frankfurt	DAX	4,857.97	4,831.22	+0.55
Copenhagen	Stock Market	638.26	638.54	-0.34
Helsinki	HEX Generali	4,578.40	4,424.82	+1.02
Oslo	OSEX	519.14	511.68	+0.25
London	FTSE 100	5,281.70	5,281.70	+0.19
Madrid	Stock Exchange	718.72	705.17	+2.06
Milan	MIBTEL	26296	19926	+1.86
Paris	CAC 40	3,728.32	3,698.00	+0.85
Stockholm	STX 16	3,404.27	3,440.89	-1.05
Vienna	ATX	1,145.77	1,128.41	+1.54
Zurich	SPI	4,232.90	4,156.05	+1.85

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **P&O Nedlloyd, Sea-Land Corp.** and 13 other container-shipping companies were fined 273 million European currency units (\$317.4 million) by the European Commission, which found they had fixed prices on inland-transport services.
- **Deutsche Telekom AG**, Europe's largest phone company, said its supervisory board had approved plans to spin off its unprofitable cable-television business next year and divide it into regional units.
- **Metro AG**, a German retail group, plans to take over the worldwide wholesale-trading activities of **Metro Holding AG**, its Swiss majority owner. Sources said Metro would pay about 4.8 billion Deutsche marks (\$2.85 billion) for the takeover.
- **France Telecom SA** plans to reduce its stake in **Panafon SA**, Greece's largest mobile-phone company, to 20 percent from 35 percent because it cannot gain control of the company from **Vodafone Group PLC**, according to bankers preparing Panafon's initial public offering.

Bloomberg, Reuters

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ASIA/PACIFIC

A Push for 'Hard Landing' in Japan

By Sandra Sugawara
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — For years, Japan has been criticized for moving too slowly to clean up its weak banking system. Now, a surprisingly strong coalition of opposition parties is demanding that the government in Japan adopt a brutal "hard landing" scenario.

The dramatic difference in the approaches to the crisis of the governing Liberal Democratic Party and the opposition parties, led by the Democratic Party, has made it difficult for the two sides to reach an agreement, despite intense pressure from overseas.

On Wednesday, two American officials who were visiting Tokyo, the U.S. trade representative, Charlene Barshefsky, and Stuart Eizenstat, undersecretary of state for economic affairs, both reiterated long-standing U.S. frustration over Japan's slowness in dealing with its banking crisis. The continuing erosion of Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan Ltd., a major lender, added to the urgency to find a solution, said analysts.

Until recently, the Liberal Democrats had been planning to enact banking measures before Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's meeting in New York next week with President Bill Clinton, to highlight Mr. Obuchi's ability to lead Japan out of its recession.

Yet, on Wednesday night both sides said the talks were deadlocked. Because the Liberal Democrats do not have a majority in the upper house of Parliament, the party needs some opposition votes to get its measures passed. "Chances for a breakthrough through are remote," Hideyuki Aizawa, a senior Liberal Democratic lawmaker, said this evening, Bloomberg News reported.

Liberal Democratic officials have said that none of Japan's major 19 banks should be allowed to fail because of the risk to the financial system. They want to use a \$97 billion fund to inject money into weak but viable banks. Analysts have said that many Japanese banks have insufficient capital, because borrowers have not paid back more than \$600 billion in loans.

In contrast, the opposition groups have advocated strict disclosure and bad loan reserve requirements that Democratic Party leaders acknowledge could result in the closure of about half of the major banks in Japan. They also want to eliminate the \$97 billion fund. Instead, they have discussed establishing a smaller fund that would enable the government to nationalize banks with insufficient capital. It would also allow the government to inject money into banks that agreed to buy the good assets — the loans that are repaid on time — from banks that have been liquidated.

Naoto Nemoto, a banking analyst at



Naoto Kan, the opposition Democratic Party chief, calling for steps to end Japan's financial crisis.

Standard & Poor's Corp. who has been critical of Japan's handling of its weak banks, said the proposal of the opposition groups also had major risks. "By abolishing the 13 trillion yen fund, the financial system could become more unstable than it is now," said Mrs. Nemoto. Also, if the government allows Long-Term Credit to go bankrupt, that means its pledge to protect the major 19 banks is worthless, she said.

But Eisei Ito, chairman of the Democratic Party's policy-research committee, said a banking industry shake out was necessary because there were too many banks in Japan. "Tax money should not be used to prop up a bankrupt bank," he said. The Democratic Party has argued that nationalization of the bank will prevent panic because the government can end the banks' activities in an orderly fashion and meet the banks' international obligations. The good assets would be sold off, and the bad loans would go to a U.S.-style Resolution Trust Corp.

Meanwhile, the governor of the Bank of Japan, Masaru Hayami, said Wednesday that the Japan premium — the extra amount charged to Japanese banks because of perceived risks — had been rising. Mr. Hayami also told Parliament that only a few Japanese banks could directly raise funds in the euro interbank market these days.

Malaysia's High-Tech Vision Falters

Bloomberg News

SINGAPORE — At the height of Malaysia's boom in the mid-1990s, Prime Minister Mahatir bin Mohamad allowed himself a vision of his country as a high-technology industrial powerhouse.

In place of the palm-oil plantations south of the capital, Kuala Lumpur, he saw a 50-kilometer (30-mile) stretch of futuristic industrial estates linked by a sophisticated telecommunications system. He saw Cyberjaya, the most modern, purpose-built information technology city in the world; and he saw the Mesdaq, a new stock market that would seed the development of an Asian Silicon Valley, bringing together capital, computer talent and market specialists to fire the country's great technological leap forward.

All of this was summed up by the catchphrase Vision 2020, representing Mr. Mahatir's ambitious plans to lift Malaysia into the ranks of the developed nations in the first two decades of the next century.

But with Kuala Lumpur having recently imposed far-reaching capital controls to try to deal with the country's currency and financial crises, that dream, like Malaysia's plan to build a

world-class offshore banking system on the island of Labuan, is looking increasingly wishful.

"It's a tragedy, really, to waste everything. Vision 2020 and all that has been sacrificed for political expediency," said William Pitman, director of investment at Henderson Investors Singapore Ltd.

After 13 years of breakneck economic growth, Malaysia seemed well placed to meet its goal. The grand dream began unraveling last year, though, as the economy cooled amid a credit crunch and regionwide currency crisis, prompting foreign investors to take flight. In a bid to stem the flow of capital, the central bank announced the capital controls Sept. 1, effectively removing the country from the international finance community.

The problem is, many of Malaysia's development plans hinge on gaining access to foreign capital and technology. Mesdaq, for example, modeled on the Nasdaq over-the-counter exchange in the United States, is intended to attract investors looking to buy shares in high-tech companies that have growth potential but little in the way of established revenue flows.

With the new barriers to foreign

investors, including one that prohibits them from repatriating proceeds from share sales for 12 months, there is little chance of Mesdaq achieving its goals, analysts say.

"Malaysian investors don't know the value of technology stocks," said Nik Ezar Nik Botta, chief executive of RHB Unit Trust Management Bhd., a Malaysian fund manager. "They are counting on foreign investors who understand the value of technology companies to invest, but now foreign investors are avoiding Malaysia."

Mr. Mahatir has not publicly commented on Mesdaq or the Multimedia Super Corridor, as the industrial development project is known, since his government unveiled the capital controls. Khairul Anwar Abdullah, executive chairman of Mesdaq, said it was premature to comment on what effect the controls would have on the exchange, which is to start trading in October.

In July, Mr. Mahatir said that "turmoil or no turmoil," the country would push ahead with the corridor, and large foreign investors such as Microsoft Corp. and Cisco Systems Inc. of the United States and Acer Inc. of Taiwan, have said the capital restrictions will not affect their plans for Malaysia.

TURMOIL: Commitment to Free-Market Policies Shrinks in Asia

Continued from Page 13

alization as the United States and the International Monetary Fund.

Michel Camdessus, managing director of the IMF, said Malaysia's exchange controls were "dangerous and indeed harmful." He added: "I hope these measures will be soon altered and hopefully removed." During a visit to the Philippines, David Aaron, the U.S. undersecretary for international trade, said Asian nations must not follow Malaysia's lead, but adhere to open market principles.

"The supposed alternatives — exchange controls, import substitution and state management — do not work," Mr. Aaron said. "The failed nostrums of the past are not the answer."

However, many commentators, including Mr. Supachai, warned that further market turmoil would inspire other countries to clamp down on their currency and erect trade barriers.

"When they look at China, India and Malaysia they might think that if you can control your capital account things might work out better," Mr. Supachai said, adding that Thailand had no need or intention to use capital controls.

The danger is that the depth of the ongoing emerging market crisis will drive otherwise reasonable leaders to adopt desperate measures, said Bill Kaye, managing partner of the Pacific Group's Asian Hedge Fund.

"These countries are entering the nuclear winter of global investment," he said. "The International Monetary

Fund programs haven't achieved their desired result, and things just aren't getting better. Now there is a real risk we will have had policy contagion."

In addition to Malaysia's currency controls, Mr. Kaye cited Hong Kong's recent billion-dollar stock-market intervention and Taiwan banning hedge funds as examples of the start of a worldwide pullback from free-market economics.

"If countries find they are being more hurt than helped by the external environment, they may think it better to shut down the capital account," said Graham Ma, head of Asia-Pacific economic research at Salomon Smith Barney. "Other countries might be tempted to limit the speed of capital flows."

Tom Burke contributed to this report from London.

Hopewell to Halt Java Project

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — Hopewell Holdings Ltd. said Wednesday it had halted work on a large power project in Indonesia and that it may take a charge of 4.8 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$619.7 million) to absorb the costs.

It is the second setback faced by the infrastructure company in Southeast Asia because of the regional financial crisis. It had previously shelved an elevated railroad project in Thailand.

The company said it told its bankers the Tanjung Jati B power plant in western Java could not be completed until economic conditions in the country improved.

Sir Gordon Wu, chairman of Hopewell, said the notice had been issued to safeguard the company's investment in Indonesia, which is battling a severe financial crisis.

The power project is a 1,320-megawatt coal-fired power plant, and Hopewell has the right to operate the plant for 30 years. Hopewell said the project was originally scheduled for completion in 2000 and was now 70 percent complete.

The Hong Kong-based company has an 80 percent stake in the project. Sir Gordon said he hoped his company could eventually restart the project. (AFP, Bloomberg)

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60 ASIAN PACIFIC FUND GROUP

ASIA/PACIFIC

GM to Triple Stake In Suzuki to 10%

U.S. Carmaker Seeks More Access to Asia

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — General Motors Corp., the world's largest automaker, said Wednesday it would pay \$315 million to triple its stake in Japan's Suzuki Motor Corp. and gain better access to Asian markets.

GM will raise its stake in Japan's largest maker of minivans to 10 percent from 3.3 percent and cooperate with Suzuki on design, production and marketing. GM will buy 33.6 million new Suzuki shares at 1,258 yen (\$9.41) each. The shares closed at 1,238 in Tokyo trading down 2.

The deal calls for Suzuki to take primary responsibility for the design and development of small passenger vehicles and minivans, particularly in Asia. A minivan has less than half the engine power of an average compact car. GM will be responsible for midsize and large passenger vehicles.

The two companies also agreed to exchange information on advanced technology in areas such as alternative fuels and intelligent vehicles.

Suzuki and GM operate a joint venture in Canada that makes small vehicles for North America. They have also agreed to jointly develop compact cars for sale in Europe.

"In many areas of the world where GM needs to be, Suzuki is already there," GM's chairman, John Smith, said at a joint press conference in Tokyo with Osamu Suzuki, president of Suzuki. "This has to do with being a strong player in the rest of the globe where markets are growing relatively faster."

Suzuki said it needed GM to expand its product range beyond compact cars and motorcycles and to move into markets where it has little presence — including Latin America, Africa and Eastern Europe.

"We are good at mini and small cars, and we can use GM plants to produce them," Mr. Suzuki said. "We can produce a full line of vehicles by leveraging GM support."

Suzuki said it would use the proceeds from the share sale to invest in plants, equipment, research and development.

The move follows a string of mergers in the global auto industry that has forced many smaller carmakers to consolidate.

In July, Daimler-Benz AG of Germany and Nissan Diesel Motor Co. of Japan said they would jointly develop a light truck as the first step in a broader tie-up.

Ford Motor Co., the world's second-largest automaker, is considering increasing its 33.4 percent stake in Mazda Motor Corp., Japan's fifth-largest automaker, and Toyota Motor Corp., Japan's biggest automaker, last month took a majority stake in Daihatsu Motor Co., Japan's second-largest minivan maker, to expand into subcompact cars.

(Bloomberg, AP)



THE SHOW BEGINS — U.S. and Chinese officials attending the gala opening of Universal Studios' theme attraction in Beijing. Located in the middle of the capital, the attraction expects to draw about 1,400 visitors a day. An adult entrance ticket in peak season is to cost 35 yuan (\$4.23).

Big Borrower From Ailing LTCB Is Said to Fail

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Nishi Nihon Lease & Development Corp., a finance company that is a big borrower from the ailing Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan Ltd., failed Wednesday, a credit agency said.

Nishi Nihon Lease, with about 69.4 billion yen (\$518 million) in debts, filed for court protection from its creditors, said Teikoku Databank, a private credit-research concern. Analysts said the finance company's bankruptcy was expected to add pressure on LTCB, which is on the verge of collapse with massive nonperforming loans.

Separately, LTCB denied a newspaper report that it would dissolve its alliance with UBS AG of Switzerland.

LTCB, whose fate hangs on a government bailout and a merger with Sumitomo Trust & Banking Ltd., is

in three-way talks with UBS and Sumitomo Trust about its future.

"Talks are still going on between UBS and Sumitomo Trust, and we have yet to reach a conclusion," said Ichiro Murakami, an LTCB spokesman. LTCB would issue a statement on the report later, he said.

A spokesman for UBS in Tokyo said

the bank would not comment on speculation.

The Nihon Keizai newspaper reported that LTCB and UBS would dissolve their business alliance formed last year and would probably dissolve their cross-shareholding agreement. It said UBS would buy most of the stake in two joint

ventures the two companies had agreed to establish — a brokerage and an asset-management company.

UBS will expand its business in Japan through the two affiliates, the report said.

LTCB shares plunged 34 percent to close at 25 yen.

(AFP, Bloomberg)

Warburg Dillon Read and Nikko Securities Cut Asia Staffs

HONG KONG — Warburg Dillon Read and Nikko Securities Co. fired a total of 80 people in their Asian securities businesses Wednesday.

Warburg Dillon Read, the investment-banking arm of UBS AG, fired 40 people in 10 regional offices, or about 13 percent of its 317 Asian

equities employees outside Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Nikko fired 31 people, or 20 percent of its Hong Kong staff, and laid off nine employees in Malaysia.

The cuts follow similar reductions in Asia by banks and brokerage companies such as J.P. Morgan & Co., Bankers Trust Corp. and Daiwa Securities Ltd. Tumbling fi-

nanial markets and slowing trading volume have drastically cut commission income.

While Warburg cited the slowing economies of Asia, it also said some of the job cuts had resulted from the merger of Swiss Bank Corp., which had been Warburg's parent, with Union Bank of Switzerland, a deal that formed UBS.

Investor's Asia

Index	Close	Change
Hong Kong Hang Seng	7,753.47	+1.84
Singapore Straits Times	902.80	+4.87
Tokyo Nikkei 225	14,107.70	-0.21
London FTSE 100	2,554.30	-0.04
Frankfurt DAX	3,590.08	+1.27
Paris CAC 40	211.08	+3.51
Madrid IBEX 35	310.29	+0.86
Stock Market Index	6,972.54	+1.67
NYSE	1,140.40	+3.17
Composite Index	292.52	-0.42
Nikkei 225	1,747.74	-0.84
S&P 500	1,162.65	-0.74
Source: Reuters		

Very briefly:

- Seven of Japan's 19 major banks, including bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, the nation's largest, may face a credit ratings cut for the second time this year by Standard & Poor's Corp. or Moody's Investors Service Inc. The two U.S. ratings companies cited the inability of Japan's political leaders to agree on measures to help the banks.
- Fortis NV, a Dutch-Belgian financial-services company, scuttled plans to buy a 15 percent stake in AMMB Holdings Bhd., dashing the Malaysian financial concern's hopes of raising about \$190 million in capital.
- China's economy is forecast to grow 9.1 percent in the fourth quarter from a year earlier, the Xinhua news agency said, quoting a government think tank. The report said such a rate in the fourth quarter would allow China to achieve its 1998 growth goal of 8 percent.
- Ansett Holdings Ltd., an Australian airline, plans to cut services and fire employees as part of a drive to cut costs and raise profit to 10 percent of its revenue in three years.
- Daiwa Bank Ltd. of Japan plans to close its Swiss subsidiary this month, the Kyodo news agency quoted company sources as saying.
- South Korea's foreign-exchange reserves rose to a record \$42.92 billion as of Tuesday from \$41.35 billion at the end of August, the Bank of Korea said. The increase reflected the return of emergency settlement loans extended to financial institutions last year.

(Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)

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Fund Name	Assets	YTD Return	12-M Return	3-M Return	6-M Return	1-Yr Return	3-Yr Return	5-Yr Return	10-Yr Return
1. AMERICAN FUND OF INVESTMENT	\$1.2B	12.5%	15.2%	8.1%	10.3%	11.8%	14.5%	16.2%	18.1%
2. FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$850M	11.8%	14.1%	7.5%	9.8%	11.2%	13.9%	15.6%	17.4%
3. VANGUARD INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$720M	11.2%	13.5%	7.1%	9.4%	10.9%	13.6%	15.3%	17.1%
4. WELLS FARGO INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$680M	10.9%	13.2%	6.8%	9.1%	10.6%	13.3%	15.0%	16.8%
5. PRUDENTIAL INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$650M	10.5%	12.8%	6.5%	8.8%	10.3%	13.0%	14.7%	16.5%
6. MORGAN STANLEY INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$620M	10.2%	12.5%	6.2%	8.5%	10.0%	12.7%	14.4%	16.2%
7. JPMORGAN INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$590M	9.8%	12.2%	5.9%	8.2%	9.7%	12.4%	14.1%	15.9%
8. BANK OF AMERICA INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$560M	9.5%	11.9%	5.6%	7.9%	9.4%	12.1%	13.8%	15.6%
9. CITICORP INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$530M	9.2%	11.6%	5.3%	7.6%	9.1%	11.8%	13.5%	15.3%
10. WELLS FARGO INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$500M	8.9%	11.3%	5.0%	7.3%	8.8%	11.5%	13.2%	15.0%
11. PRUDENTIAL INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$470M	8.6%	11.0%	4.7%	7.0%	8.5%	11.2%	12.9%	14.7%
12. MORGAN STANLEY INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$440M	8.3%	10.7%	4.4%	6.7%	8.2%	10.9%	12.6%	14.4%
13. JPMORGAN INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$410M	8.0%	10.4%	4.1%	6.4%	7.9%	10.6%	12.3%	14.1%
14. BANK OF AMERICA INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$380M	7.7%	10.1%	3.8%	6.1%	7.6%	10.3%	12.0%	13.8%
15. CITICORP INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$350M	7.4%	9.8%	3.5%	5.8%	7.3%	10.0%	11.7%	13.5%
16. WELLS FARGO INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$320M	7.1%	9.5%	3.2%	5.5%	7.0%	9.7%	11.4%	13.2%
17. PRUDENTIAL INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$290M	6.8%	9.2%	2.9%	5.2%	6.7%	9.4%	11.1%	12.9%
18. MORGAN STANLEY INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$260M	6.5%	8.9%	2.6%	4.9%	6.4%	9.1%	10.8%	12.6%
19. JPMORGAN INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$230M	6.2%	8.6%	2.3%	4.6%	6.1%	8.8%	10.5%	12.3%
20. BANK OF AMERICA INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$200M	5.9%	8.3%	2.0%	4.3%	5.8%	8.5%	10.2%	12.0%
21. CITICORP INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$170M	5.6%	8.0%	1.7%	4.0%	5.5%	8.2%	9.9%	11.7%
22. WELLS FARGO INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$140M	5.3%	7.7%	1.4%	3.7%	5.2%	7.9%	9.6%	11.4%
23. PRUDENTIAL INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$110M	5.0%	7.4%	1.1%	3.4%	4.9%	7.6%	9.3%	11.1%
24. MORGAN STANLEY INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$80M	4.7%	7.1%	0.8%	3.1%	4.6%	7.3%	9.0%	10.8%
25. JPMORGAN INTERNATIONAL FUND	\$50M	4.4%	6.8%	0.5%	2.8%	4.3%	7.0%	8.7%	10.5%

WORLD ROUNDUP

Anderlecht Blanked

Soccer The Belgian team Anderlecht was jeered off its own pitch after losing, 2-0, to the Swiss champions, Grasshoppers, in a UEFA Cup first-round, first-leg match Wednesday.

After a quiet first half, Alexandre Comisetti opened the scoring for the visitors in the 52d minute with a powerful header from a corner taken by Antonio Esposito. The Swiss grabbed their second goal four minutes from time when an Israeli substitute, Avraham Ilan, lifted the ball over Anderlecht's Belgian international goalkeeper, Filip De Wilde. (For Tuesday's UEFA Cup results, see page 21.)

Jimenez Wins 11th Stage

Cycling Jose Maria Jimenez outflanked Fernando Escartin to win his third mountain stage of this year's Tour of Spain on Wednesday. The 186-kilometer (115-mile) stage went from the Andorra frontier to Cerler.

It was the Spaniard's second successive stage victory as he worked to defend the overall lead of his Banesto teammate, Abraham Olano, in the Pyrenees. Olano kept the leader's yellow jersey, but a late attack from his chief rival, Laurent Jalabert of France, trimmed six seconds from his overnight lead of 41 seconds.

Berasategui Advances

Tennis Top-seeded Alberto Berasategui of Spain advanced to the third round of the Samsung Open in Bournemouth, England, with a 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 victory over Martin Rodriguez of Argentina on Wednesday.

In other second-round matches, Vincenzo Santopadre of Italy beat Michael Kohlmann of Germany, 6-0, 6-3; Marc-Kevin Goellner of Germany won over Tomas Nydahl of Sweden 7-6 (7-3), 6-2; and Alex Lopez-Moran of Spain defeated his compatriot, Oscar Serrano, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2.

In a first-round match between two other Spaniards that was completed after being suspended Tuesday by darkness, Jordi Burillo beat Sergi Bruguera 6-4, 4-6, 6-2. (AP)

'McGwire Stuck at 63'

Pinch-Hit Homer Breaks 6-Game 'Drought'

By Ira Berkow
New York Times Service

ST. LOUIS — Mark McGwire had not hit a home run in six games, ever since he passed Roger Maris to set the major league single-season record amid a national furor. And to some, the sky was falling. A headline in a local newspaper Tuesday read, "McGwire Stuck at 62."

To add to the misery of McGwire's fans, Sammy Sosa, his once and future nemesis and, oddly enough, pal, had gone during the week from 58 home runs to 62, equaling McGwire's total.

Then there was the problem with McGwire's back; he had suffered recent spasms. And so Tuesday night, in the first game of a doubleheader against the Pittsburgh Pirates, the St. Louis Cardinals' manager, Tony La Russa, rested McGwire.

But as is the wont of the best-laid plans of rodents and managers, things changed. And so, abruptly, did the home run race. McGwire was called on by La Russa to pinch-hit for Delino DeShields in the ninth inning of the first game, with the Cardinals trailing by 8-5, one out and no one on base.

As the mighty, right-handed-hitting McGwire stepped to the plate, the crowd of 41,271 at Busch Stadium stood and cheered. They remained on their feet as McGwire swung at a 1-0 pitch from the left-hander Jason Christian and sent one of his classic, arching blows into the left-center-field stands, his 63d home run of the season to break the tie with Sosa and extend the home run record.

The Cardinals came out on the losing end of the game, however, 8-6.

When asked after the game how he felt about breaking the record again, McGwire replied, "It's not a record until the season is over."

On pinch-hitting, McGwire said: "It's a tough job. You're sitting around all day and then you have to get up there and swing."

In the second game, which the Cardinals won, 9-3, McGwire was 1 for 3 with a double and two walks.

Before the game, McGwire said that he was only beginning to understand what his and Sosa's pursuit of the record had meant to the country and maybe to the world.

"It's amazing," he said, standing in front of his locker in the Cardinals' clubhouse. "I've seen the editorials and the front-page stories about what this means to people. Just today I got a letter

from the prime minister of Japan and from Boh Dole."

McGwire mentioned the "Stuck on 62" headline and laughed. "Imagine, 'Stuck' on 62. I think we've spoiled these people. Last night I got two singles, and, 'Boo, boo!'"

It wasn't quite that way, though fans are disappointed when McGwire does not belt a ball over the fence. The boos are more for the umpire, when he calls a strike on McGwire, and for the opposing pitcher, when he throws a pitch for a ball to McGwire.

McGwire and Sosa have put a new face on competition. McGwire, the son of a Southern California dentist, and Sosa, from an impoverished background in the Dominican Republic, have been as close to brotherly love as possible amid these conditions.

"People have looked at athletes these days as greedy or arrogant and then they see Sammy and I truly respecting one another, and liking one another," McGwire said. "Two guys from two different backgrounds and countries appreciating what the other is doing."

Before Tuesday night's game, McGwire had only three hits, all singles, in his last 18 at-bats. He had back spasms Sunday, but he said his back was now "standing."

"The longest he had gone without a homer this season was, as he said, '20-something at-bats.' It was in early August, and he recalled telling reporters, 'There's more important things in the country than worrying about my hitting a home run.'"

About that statement, McGwire said: "I got kind of testy. But I'm human. It's a six-month season. And if you average 10 homers a month, you can break the record. And I had been averaging that. But I also hadn't yet realized just what all this meant to people."

Players told McGwire to enjoy the experience and pointed to Sosa, who was taking pleasure in it. "But Sammy wasn't like Griffey and me," McGwire said. "He hadn't gone through all the questions before."

McGwire had 58 homers last season and Ken Griffey Jr. had 56; Sosa had 36. "So Griffey and I have been getting it since last year. Can we break the record?" McGwire said. But on the weekend of Aug. 7, the Cubs and Sosa were here for a series.

"It was before a game and Sammy and I looked at each other," McGwire said, "and I guess we both thought, 'All right, all the cameras are around, let's



Mark McGwire going downtown with No. 63. Despite the home run, the slugger's Cardinals lost to the Pirates.

make them happy.' They ran at each other and embraced. And then some 10 days later, in a series between the two teams in Wrigley Field, they did it again."

When McGwire broke Maris's record, it was against the Cubs, and Sosa ran in from his position in right field to hug McGwire. After Sosa hit his 61st and 62d homers last Sunday, McGwire called to congratulate him.

A woman called La Russa's office.

She had heard that McGwire was going to play in one of the two games, but didn't know which one. If it's the first, she told La Russa, she would leave work early.

La Russa had decided to play McGwire in the second game because, he said, "more people will be at the second game than the first, and that would just give more people an opportunity to see Mark."

McGwire was asked if he would be

disappointed if Sosa finished ahead of him in homers, thereby establishing the record.

"Not at all, not one iota," he said. "All I can do is control what I can do. I've done what I've done. However we end up, how can anybody say anything negative if one is ahead of the other at the finish?"

And if the two are tied for homers at season's end in a few weeks? "That," he said, "would be wonderful."

A Record Victory Cuts Angels' Lead

The Associated Press

Rolando Arroyo set a record for victories by a first-year expansion team's pitcher as the Tampa Bay Devil Rays tripped up Anaheim, 8-1, slowing the Angels' run in the AL West.

Anaheim's lead over second-place Texas was cut to one game as the Rangers rallied in the ninth to beat Baltimore, 1-0.

Tampa Bay scored six runs off Jeff Juden (1-3) and Rich Butler hit a two-run homer off Mike Fetters on Tuesday night to help Arroyo (14-12) win for the first time at home since June 17. Arroyo struck out four and walked two.

He had been tied at 13 victories with Gene Brabender of the 1969 Seattle Pilots, Dave Lemanczyk of the 1977 Blue Jays and Andy Benes of the Arizona Diamondbacks this year.

Wade Boggs had a pair of RBI singles for the Devil Rays, who scored three runs in the fifth and four in the sixth.

Rangers 6, Orioles 5 In Baltimore, Ivan Rodriguez hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning as Texas came back from a five-run deficit to beat the Orioles. Will Clark opened the Texas ninth with a single off Arthur Rhodes.

Rodriguez then hit a 1-2 pitch from Armando Benitez deep into the left-field seats, his 19th homer of the season.

Tigers 2, White Sox 0 Seth Greisinger gave up four hits in eight innings for host Detroit in a game that started nearly two hours late because of rain. Greisinger (6-8) struck out three and walked two in winning for the fifth time in six decisions.

Indians 7, Blue Jays 5 Manny Ramirez hit three homers for his first 40-homer season and drove in five runs as the Indians reduced their magic number for clinching the AL Central title to two with the triumph at home.

Red Sox 9, Yankees 4 Jason Varitek homered twice and drove in a career-high five runs and Tim Wakefield (16-8) took a short rest into the seventh at Yankee Stadium as Boston stopped a three-game losing streak, winning for only the third time in 12 games.

Mariners 12, Twins 7 In Minneapolis, Ken Griffey Jr. hit his AL-leading 52d homer and drove in five runs to become the fourth-youngest player to reach 1,000 RBIs. At 28 years and 10 months, he got to 1,000 faster than anyone except Mel Ott, Jimmy Foxx and Lou Gehrig.

Royals 6, Athletics 3 Jeff King and Scott Leius drove in two runs apiece as host Kansas City stretched its home winning streak to four.

In the National League:

Cubs 4, Padres 2 In San Diego, Sammy Sosa went homerless for the second straight game while Mark Grace's two-run homer led Chicago, which took a half-game lead over New York in the NL wild-card race. Sosa was 1-for-5 with two strikeouts.

Astros 6, Mets 5; Mets 8, Astros 4 John Olerud hit a three-run homer that erased

a 3-2 deficit in the eighth inning as visiting New York gained the split. In the opener, the Mets' Carlos Baerga hit a two-run homer in the ninth, but Houston won on Derek Bell's homer in the 12th off Jeff Tam (1-1).

Al Leiter (16-5) won the second game, and Jay Powell (7-6), who won the opener, was the loser. Craig Biggio singled in the last inning of the doubleheader, becoming the first Houston player to reach 200 hits in a season.

Brewers 3, Phillies 0 In Atlanta, Kevin Millwood (16-8) allowed eight hits in seven shutout innings and struck out eight. Norm Charlton pitched the ninth for his first save this season.

Rocks 6, Brewers 1 In Cincinnati, Barry Larkin and Bret Boone homered and Mike Remlinger (8-15) allowed one run and four hits in six innings.

Mariners 7, Expos 4 Randy Knorr hit a two-run triple and Mark Kotsay went 4-for-5 with two RBIs to lead visiting Florida to only its third win in 19 games.

Rockies 5, Dodgers 4 In Los Angeles, Darryl Kile (12-16) overcame a shaky start and singled to break a 3-all tie in the sixth. He allowed three runs and 10 hits in seven innings, and Jerry Dipoto pitched the ninth for his 19th save.

Diamondbacks 7, Giants 6 Travis Lee singled home the winning run in the 11th inning and host Arizona overcame a six-run deficit to drop San Francisco 4½ games back in the NL wild-card race.

Susie O'Neill Swims to 9th Gold Medal

The Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR — Susie O'Neill of Australia won the ninth gold medal of her Commonwealth Games career Wednesday, matching compatriot Mike Weeden's record for the most victories by a swimmer in the history of the Games.

Australia, England and Canada got two gold medals apiece on the fourth night of competition, with Australia maintaining its huge lead in the gold medal standings. Australia has 19, Canada 4 and England 3.

With their triumph, England and Canada gave crushed Australia's pool party. England's James Hickman surged out hard and managed to bring home a national record in winning the 200-meter butterfly, while compatriot Mark Foster won the 50-meter freestyle gold.

Canada's Olympic silver medalist, Marianne Limpert, won the women's 200-meter individual medley in 2 minutes, 15.05 seconds, defeating compatriot Joanne Malar, while Mark Versfeld claimed a backstroke double, coming from sixth at halfway to win the 100-meter event.

Australian Rachel Harris won a surprise 800-meter gold, and O'Neill swam the freestyle leg of Australia's 4-by-100-meter team, capturing her fifth gold of these Games after one in Auckland, New Zealand, in 1990 and three in Victoria, British Columbia, in 1994.

Weeden's tally of nine golds was believed to be a record for all athletes in Commonwealth Games sports, but this

could not be confirmed by the Commonwealth Games Federation because of poor record keeping.

O'Neill has a chance to break Weeden's record and equal Canadian Graham Smith's swimming record of six at one Games (1978) when she contests the women's 200-meter butterfly Thursday. She is the Olympic champion in the event and said, "The win means more to me than the medal tally. It's my main event, so I want to do well."

Everyone Is Slow in 100 Meters

At O'Brien cruised into the semifinal of the Commonwealth Games 100 me-

ters with a fastest time of 10.05 seconds Wednesday and then said he doubted that he was running on a world record track.

Surprised that no one had gone below 10 seconds in two rounds of heats, the Trinidad sprinter admitted that he might not break Donovan Bailey's world mark of 9.84 seconds in Thursday's final.

Boldon had said earlier he thought the "Caribbean-style" heat and humidity of Kuala Lumpur were ideal for a world record performance.

But after watching rival Frankie Fredericks run 10.15 and Obadele Thompson of Barbados clock 10.09, he believed the brand new track at the 100,000-capacity National Stadium might not be fast enough.

"I'm starting to have my doubts about the track," said Boldon, who will run the semifinals and final on Thursday. "It's not just me, it's the times of other guys are running."

The opening day of athletics saw Kenyans 1-2 in the men's 10,000 meters, with Simon Maina beating William Kalya. Australia's Steve Monaghan took bronze to win a medal for the fourth Commonwealth Games in a row.

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The Greatest, Still Great

Ali Is Honored by an Admirer, the UN Chief

By William C. Rhoden
New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — Cameras were clicking inside UN headquarters when the secretary-general, Kofi Annan, presented The Greatest, Muhammad Ali, with the Messenger of Peace honor.

This was mostly a photo opportunity: The secretary-general presented Ali with a framed citation and a lapel pin in the form of a dove. Ali and his wife, Lonnie, presented the secretary-general with a pair of boxing gloves. This was a relationship filled with deep, long-standing mutual admiration.

The boxer and the secretary-general share a sports background. Annan was a sprinter and soccer player at Macalester College in Minnesota. Ali, of course, is the three-time heavyweight champion of the world, the greatest of all time. Each man has devoted his life to the pursuit of peace. Annan as a diplomat, Ali as an unofficial ambassador.

Annan established the Messenger of Peace honor as a way of recognizing that peace is not the mere province of governments but hinges on the willingness of individual citizens to use their gifts to inspire good will. Ali became the second former athlete to receive the honor. Magic Johnson was honored as well.

"People like Muhammad transcend national boundaries," Annan said.

Shortly after Annan was named secretary-general in January 1997, he initiated the Messenger of Peace award to recognize a commitment to peace, honor and human dignity. Annan recalled one of Ali's visits to the UN when he drew a picture with the inscription, "The rent we pay here on earth is service to mankind and to other people."

Annan first met Ali in 1979 when Ali, at the request of Richard Lippich, a UN employee at the time and now the director of the Study of Sport in Society Institute, requested that he address the Special Committee Against Apartheid. Actually Annan, who was born in Ghana, had admired Ali from afar for decades.

"I admired him first as an athlete, an outstanding, unique boxer," Annan

said. "I also followed his own travails and difficulties and saw the way he handled himself and how he became a stronger and a better man. That's quite an achievement. Not all of us who go through traumatic experiences are able to pick up the pieces and move on stronger and better men, and Muhammad did that."

After the ceremony in Annan's office on Tuesday afternoon, Ali walked through the UN corridors and became the magnet he has been for three decades. Employees stopped, tourists snapped pictures. The Russian delegate, the delegate from Poland, a delegate from the Republic of South Korea all shook Ali's hand. Ahmad Kamal, the Pakistani delegate, warmly greeted Ali and told of the time he visited Ali in the champion's home in 1982.

Ali gave him a copy of a book of prayer and signed it. "He is not a boxer or an athlete," Kamal said. "He is a complete man."

Outside on the UN Plaza, 200 children waited and cheered as Ali arrived. One hundred of them had walked from Harlem to meet the champ, some of them weren't born — their parents may not have been born — when Ali recorded his great triumphs.

Ali smiled and walked among them, accepting handshakes and requests for photos with children. Diplomats negotiate, Kofi Annan said, but the key to true and lasting good will is the efforts of each nation's extraordinary individuals.

"We need to get everyone involved," he said. "If we can get prominent people in society from all walks of life to help get the message across, to mobilize the public to get involved in the work we are trying to do to make this world a better place, we think it will help."

Before the secretary-general excused himself, he offered one final image to put Muhammad Ali in proper perspective. Mr. Annan compared Ali to the wise farmer.

"The farmer knows instinctively that if you take something from the earth today you have to put something back to be able to return tomorrow to harvest," he said. "Muhammad understands that."



Juninho of Atlético de Madrid scoring against FC Obilic's defender, Mrkic, and goalkeeper, Lukic, in Madrid.

Fenerbahce of Turkey Stuns Parma, 1-0

The Associated Press

Fenerbahce of Turkey, with a hefty financial boost reportedly on the line, upset AC Parma, 1-0, as this season's UEFA Cup kicked off with 31 first-round, first-leg matches.

The other stunning result on Tuesday night saw the Dutch-league leader Feyenoord win at Stuttgart, 3-1, a match during which Dutch hooligans clashed with the police.

In other key games, Red Star Belgrade, Monaco, Liverpool and Fiorentina got off to winning starts.

The Romanian striker Viorel Moldovan scored for Fenerbahce on a header in the 23rd minute off a free kick from Elvir Balić. The Turkish team failed to increase the margin despite a man advantage for the last 30 minutes when Dino Baggio was sent off, and a two-

man edge the last two minutes when Fabio Cannavaro was dispatched.

Fenerbahce players will reportedly receive \$18,000 bonuses from the team for advancing to the next stage, which means surviving in the second leg in two weeks against Parma, winners of the '93 Cup Winners Cup and the '95 UEFA Cup.

In Stuttgart, meanwhile, Jon Dahl Tomasson notched two first-half goals as Feyenoord Rotterdam shocked Stuttgart before 25,000 fans in Germany. Jean Paul Van Gastel put the Dutch ahead in the 19th minute, and Tomasson scored two minutes later to make it 2-0. Fredi Bobic got Stuttgart back into the game with a goal in the 31st, but Tomasson scored again a minute after that.

The Dutch fans tore down a fence separating the stands from the field, and several fans were arrested while one security guard was carried off injured.

In Belgrade, Red Star Belgrade scored twice in the first 12 minutes and

dominated only to see Metz score in the final minute, leaving the Yugoslav team with a slim 2-1 victory. Perica Ognjenovic scored in the third minute from six meters, and Goran Drulic made it 2-0 in the 12th from nearly the same spot.

The young, inexperienced Red Star team dominated most of the match.

Monaco, semifinalists in last year's Champions Cup, got three second-half goals to beat Lorient, 3-1, in Warsaw.

In Bratislava, Slovakia, the Czech-born Patrick Berger scored in the 18th for Liverpool on a free kick from 30 meters. Karlheinz Riedle made it 2-0 on a close-in header in the 23d, and Michael Owen capped it off, scoring in the 59th for a 3-0 Liverpool victory and a comfortable edge for the second leg.

In Madrid, the Brazilian Juninho returned from injury to score in the 15th as Atlético de Madrid beat FC Obilic of Yugoslavia, 2-0. Jose Maria Romero added the other goal in the 53d.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
AL East				
New York	84	45	.658	0
Boston	81	50	.616	5
Toronto	78	53	.596	8
Baltimore	77	54	.589	9
Tampa Bay	59	72	.447	25
AL West				
Cleveland	83	46	.643	0
Chicago	71	58	.550	12
Kansas City	69	60	.538	14
Minnesota	65	64	.504	18
Detroit	58	71	.449	25
AL Central				
St. Louis	81	49	.621	0
Seattle	80	50	.613	1
San Diego	69	60	.538	12
Los Angeles	68	61	.526	13

NATIONAL LEAGUE

x-Atlanta	77	55	.638	1	Teams
New York	75	57	.568	12½	Boston
Philadelphia	70	61	.534	20½	Los Angeles
Montreal	60	72	.452	32	Florida (7), C.
Florida	58	74	.439	37	Fosberg (7), C.
CENTRAL					A. Benitez (7)
x-Houston	77	54	.634	1	San Francisco
St. Louis	75	57	.568	12½	San Francisco (1)
Los Angeles	71	61	.534	20½	Toronto
Atlanta	70	62	.524	22	Cleveland
Cincinnati	70	62	.524	22	Silva, Alamo (7)
Pittsburgh	68	64	.510	26	P. Plesac (8)
WEST					Coats, Ogden
x-San Diego	90	57	.625	1	Alamo, Ogden
San Francisco	88	57	.530	14½	S.J. - L. Silva
Los Angeles	77	75	.508	18	

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
AL East				
New York	84	45	.658	0
Boston	81	50	.616	5
Toronto	78	53	.596	8
Baltimore	77	54	.589	9
Tampa Bay	59	72	.447	25
AL West				
Cleveland	83	46	.643	0
Chicago	71	58	.550	12
Kansas City	69	60	.538	14
Minnesota	65	64	.504	18
Detroit	58	71	.449	25
AL Central				
St. Louis	81	49	.621	0
Seattle	80	50	.613	1
San Diego	69	60	.538	12
Los Angeles	68	61	.526	13

NATIONAL LEAGUE

885	894	602	- 8	
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820	920	59		

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
AL East				
New York	84	45	.658	0
Boston	81	50	.616	5
Toronto	78	53	.596	8
Baltimore	77	54	.589	9
Tampa Bay	59	72	.447	25
AL West				
Cleveland	83	46	.643	0
Chicago	71	58	.550	12
Kansas City	69	60	.538	14
Minnesota	65	64	.504	18
Detroit	58	71	.449	25
AL Central				
St. Louis	81	49	.621	0
Seattle	80	50	.613	1
San Diego	69	60	.538	12
Los Angeles	68	61	.526	13

NATIONAL LEAGUE

1982	72	84	.461	0
Los Angeles	70	86	.447	2
King's Leaksian (C), Diplo (P) and J. Reed				
Park and C. Johnson. W-Kille 12-26				
L-Park 12-30. S-Sp-October (17). HR-L				
October 12-30. Johnson (17).				
1983	72	84	.461	0
San Diego	69	91	.431	3
Topari. Beck (P) and Houston. L Brown.				
Boeingberg (P), R. Romiz (P), S. Sanders (P)				
and C. Hernandez. C. Myers (B), W-Tapan				
19-7. L-K. Brown 18-7. S-Sp-Beck (47)				
HR-Chicago. MaGrace (17). San Diego				
C. Veras (C)				
1984	69	94	.425	5
Arizona	60	104	.362	17
(1) Innings-Runes, R. Romiz (P).				

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
AL East				
New York	84	45	.658	0
Boston	81	50	.616	5
Toronto	78	53	.596	8
Baltimore	77	54	.589	9
Tampa Bay	59	72	.447	25
AL West				
Cleveland	83	46	.643	0
Chicago	71	58	.550	12
Kansas City	69	60	.538	14
Minnesota	65	64	.504	18
Detroit	58	71	.449	25
AL Central				
St. Louis	81	49	.621	0
Seattle	80	50	.613	1
San Diego	69	60	.538	12
Los Angeles	68	61	.526	13

NATIONAL LEAGUE

W	L	Pct.	GB	
NL East				
Atlanta	77	55	.585	0
New York	75	57	.568	2
Philadelphia	73	59	.552	4
Montreal	60	72	.452	17
Florida	58	74	.439	19
NL West				
San Francisco	85	43	.663	0
Los Angeles	82	46	.641	3
San Diego	75	53	.585	10
Colorado	72	56	.563	13
Arizona	65	63	.508	20
NL Central				
St. Louis	82	46	.641	0
Chicago	77	51	.602	5
Philadelphia	71	57	.555	11
Atlanta	68	60	.530	14
Pittsburgh	63	65	.492	19

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
AL East				
New York	84	45	.658	0
Boston	81	50	.616	5
Toronto	78	53	.596	8
Baltimore	77	54	.589	9
Tampa Bay	59	72	.447	25
AL West				
Cleveland	83	46	.643	0
Chicago	71	58	.550	12
Kansas City	69	60	.538	14
Minnesota	65	64	.504	18
Detroit	58	71	.449	25
AL Central				
St. Louis	81	49	.621	0
Seattle	80	50	.613	1
San Diego	69	60	.538	12
Los Angeles	68	61	.526	13

NATIONAL LEAGUE

FOCCER

UEFA Cup

1ST ROUND, FIRST LEG
TUESDAY RESULTS
Sunderland, 2; Anderlecht, Belg., 0
Spartans, 2; Tottenham, 1
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China Weighs A Bid for the 2008 Olympics

The Associated Press

SEOUL — Five years after its bitter defeat in the race to host the 2000 Olympics, China gave a strong indication Wednesday that it is ready to try for the 2008 Games.

"If we have a chance, then we will bid for the Olympic Games," said Wu Shaozu, president of the Chinese Olympic Committee. "We are now actively, positively considering this matter. We are looking at 2008."

Wu said Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, capital of the southern province of Guangdong, were the Chinese cities being considered for a possible bid.

The IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, who made a brief stopover in China last Sunday on his way to Seoul for Olympic meetings, said he had also been told by Wu that China was "positively studying" a 2008 candidacy.

Samaranch has encouraged China to bid for the games ever since Beijing lost the 2000 contest to Sydney by two votes at the 1993 IOC session in Monaco. The Beijing bid was dogged by opposition from human rights groups, especially in the United States.

China chose not to bid for the 2004 Games, which were awarded last year to Athens. Cities have until February 2000 to submit bids to the IOC, which will then select the host city in 2001.

"We have plenty of time to consider the bid," Wu said.

The declared candidates so far for 2008 are Toronto and Osaka, Japan. Bids are also expected from previous candidates Istanbul, Seville, Spain, and Buenos Aires. Paris is weighing a possible candidacy.

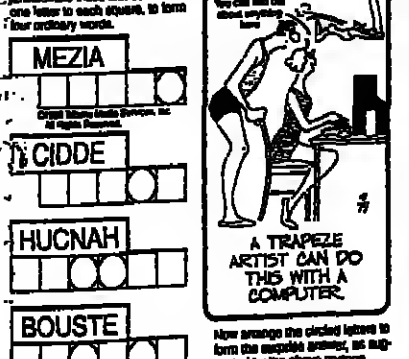
A Chinese bid would have a major impact on the race for both the 2008 and 2012 games. China would provide a major challenger for the 2008 front-runner Toronto. That would be welcomed by the United States, which is planning a bid for the 2012 Games.

If Toronto gets the 2008 Games, a U.S. city would have virtually no chance of winning the 2012 Olympics.

DENNIS THE MENACE



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ART BUCHWALD

Howl of the Tabloids

NEW YORK — I was sitting on the subway next to two men reading their tabloid newspapers. The stories had to do with Clinton grand jury testimony. One man said to the other, "Kinky."

The other said, "Sleazy."

"Impeachment."

"Kinky, sleazy, impeachment," No. 2 said.

"And an apology thrown in."

The second said, "Don't forget perjury."

"Or suborning justice."

"If I demanded forgiveness my wife would kill me."

"What about stuff that went on in the Oval Office when we were trying to get a decent health care bill?"

"Phone sex. If you live in the White House, you can't ignore phone sex."

"Or any other kind of sex."

"My tabloid says the DNA tests are 8 million in favor of Clinton."

"That's more than you can get on a lottery."

"Ugly mess."

"Devastating evidence."

"Media frenzy."

"Shame, shame, shame."

"Can I read your tabloid?"

"If I can read yours."

"Mine says we're in a cesspool."

"I'm reading nothing but Romeo and Juliet, which could be a great love story if she wasn't so young and he wasn't so old."

"Monica was the only intern who found a home of her own in the Oval Office. That's what made it all such a good tabloid story."

□

"Sex is not an impeachable offense."

"What is it?"

"It's something a president does to relieve the pressure of Iraq."

"Clinton liked hugging Monica in the Rose Garden."

"He hugged a lot of people in the Rose Garden. That's what made him a great president. If you don't believe me, just watch the clips every night on television."

Lincoln Center Given \$25 Million

NEW YORK — A record \$25 million has been given to Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts by a new board member, Julian Robertson Jr., chairman of the investment fund Tiger Management. Lincoln Center officials said the fountain plaza would be renamed in honor of Robertson's wife, Josie.

Announcing the donation Tuesday, they called it the largest single gift to the center by an individual and said the money would be divided among the center's own artistic programs and its 12 constituent members, with the largest share going to members through outright grants.

Among other things, the money will help underwrite new series, such as one on American popular standards that is to start in February, said Nathan Leventhal, Lincoln Center's president. The largest constituent, the Metropolitan Opera, would receive about \$4 million.

Stung, This Nobel Laureate Is Still Taking Risks

By Nicholas Wade
New York Times Service

ANDERSON VALLEY, Calif. — Kary Mullis, Nobel laureate in chemistry, is jumping up and down at the kitchen table of his cabin, a place in the woods several miles beyond the end of the paved road. His large head and wiry body shake as if in rage. From his lips comes an angry buzzing sound.

He is imitating a swarm of yellow jackets, acting out an episode in which the wily insects ambushed him, inflicting five stings around the mouth, after he had attacked their nest. He goes on to tell how he invented a novel brew, concocted in his kitchen blender, that eliminated the aggressors from his property for a season.

He feels the same way toward his former colleagues at Cetus Corp., where he invented the technique that won him the Nobel Prize. "None of those vultures had anything to do with it," he says emphatically. He is aggrieved that Cetus paid him a mere \$10,000 for the discovery but later sold it to Hoffmann-La Roche for \$300 million.

His invention, known as the polymerase chain reaction or PCR, is used for amplifying chosen sections of DNA and has quickly become an essential tool for biologists, DNA forensics labs and almost anyone else who needs to study genetic material.

Science has been just one of the keen interests in Mullis's life, competing with psychedelic drugs and women, although he is now happily married to his fourth wife, Nancy Cosgrove. His newest interest is writing. A book of essays, "Dancing Naked in the Mind Field," was published last month by Pantheon.

For those who would like to analyze creativity and sell it in bottles, Mullis would seem a promising subject. His invention is highly original and significant, virtually dividing biology into two epochs — before PCR and after PCR. Yet the Mullis formula for creativity, on closer inspection, is a brew

probably somewhat unsuitable for general consumption.

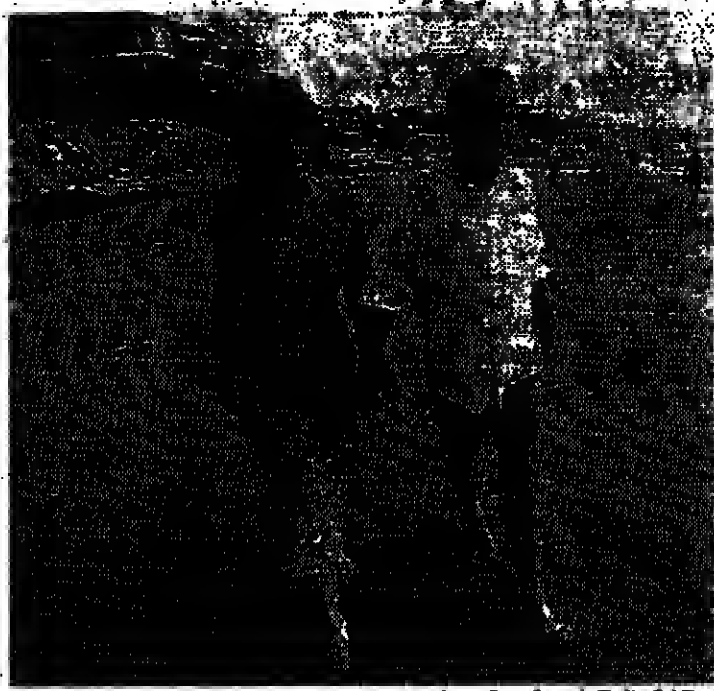
One ingredient is unbounded self-confidence. "Part of it has to do with his ego and belief that he's much smarter than the people around him," said Corey Levenson, a former Cetus colleague. "Most people who launch into an unfamiliar area would first speak to recognized authorities and get all the background. Kary saw that as a waste of time. He figured it would take less time to do the experiments himself."

Mullis's friends speak of his physical as well as intellectual risk-taking. Frank McCormick, a cancer biologist at the University of California, recalls seeing Mullis in Aspen skiing down the center of an icy road through fast two-way traffic. "Mullis had a vision that he would die by crashing his head against a redwood tree. Hence he is fearless wherever there are no redwoods," McCormick said.

Along with lack of fear comes a lack of concern about people's opinions. In his book Mullis describes episodes that others might keep private, such as the time he addressed the Empress of Japan as "sweetie" when being awarded the Japan prize, and how he was nearly arrested when he went to Stockholm for his Nobel Prize, for playing a laser beam from his hotel room at passers-by.

His fondness for the heterodox is evident in the account of a lecture he gave in April 1994 at a medical society conference in Toledo, Spain. "Just before the lecture, he told me he would not speak about the PCR but would tell his ideas about AIDS not being caused by the HIV virus," the ambushed president of the society, John Martin, wrote afterward in a letter to Nature.

His only slides (on what he called "his art") were photographs he had taken of naked women with colored lights projected on their bodies," Martin continued. "He accused science of being universally corrupt with widespread falsification of data to obtain grants."



Kary Mullis on the beach in La Jolla with Nancy Cosgrove.

Finally he impugned the honesty of several named scientists working in the HIV field.

Mullis trained as a chemist at the Georgia Institute of Technology and at the University of California at Berkeley. Then, shortly after getting his Ph.D., he dropped off the scientist's usual career path, first to write fiction and then, for two years, to manage a bakery.

It was a friend, Thomas White, who found him jobs back in science, first at the University of California at San Francisco and then at Cetus, one of the first biotechnology companies. Mullis's job, essentially that of a technician, was to make short chains of DNA for other scientists. When machines became available to do the job, he had time on his hands for other pursuits.

Mullis has often described how the concept of PCR came to him during a night drive. He was playing in his mind with a new way of analyzing mutations in DNA and

suddenly realized that he had thought up instead a method of amplifying any DNA region of choice. Before the trip was over, Mullis has written, he was already savoring prospects of the Nobel Prize.

That night journey was made in 1983; the Nobel Prize came 10 years later. But by then Mullis had dropped out of full-time science again. He left Cetus in 1986, earning his living by consulting and lecturing. He has published no more scientific papers. The divine spark that kindled the idea of PCR has not struck again.

"I like writing about biology, not doing it," Mullis says. "I don't want to go back to the lab myself and don't want to have people under my command. Fiction is my way around doing experiments."

He also enjoys giving lectures. "I love a microphone and a big crowd; I'm an entertainer, I guess."

Some of his agenda seems to have been selected with an eye to

the shock value of adopting beliefs untypical of Nobel prize-winning scientists. He echoes the belief of the distinguished virologist Peter Duesberg that HIV is not the cause of AIDS. He disputes the arguments that chlorofluorocarbons are depleting the ozone layer and that industrial waste gases may cause the climate to get hotter.

"Scientists are doing an awful lot of damage to the world in the name of helping it. I don't mind attacking my own fraternity because I am ashamed of it," Mullis says.

He jumps to his feet to swat a yellow jacket that has infiltrated the cabin.

Given his success as an independent thinker in chemistry, Mullis's challenges to other kinds of orthodoxy are not to be lightly dismissed. But the line between fact and entertainment in Mullis's world can be hard to discern. In his book he professes to believe in reincarnation and astrology, to have been rescued from a fatal accident by a person traveling in an astral plane and to have conversed with an alien disguised as a raccoon.

Is it not awkward to accommodate reincarnation within the theory of evolution? "I don't think DNA is the whole thing even though I invented a cool way of playing with it," Mullis declares.

Mullis believes his colleagues at Cetus tried to take the credit for the invention away from him. White, the friend who got him a job at Cetus and oversaw part of the development of PCR, denies that, saying a plan to have Mullis write the first paper describing the theory went awry because Mullis whiffed away the summer creating fractal pictures on Cetus's computers instead of doing experiments.

By default, a paper by other scientists on the applications of PCR was published first. Mullis's own paper was then rejected by the journals Nature and Science on the grounds that it was not new. "I feel he has never accepted responsibility for the course of how the publications came out," White said.

PEOPLE



FOR OPENERS — Elizabeth Hurley and Ben Stiller, stars of "Permanent Midnight," at the premiere of the movie in New York.

A NOTEBOOK containing draft lyrics for the Beatles' songs "Hey Jude" and "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" was sold for \$168,000 at Sotheby's. Alan Murphy, a private collector from Liverpool, the birthplace of the Beatles, bought the spiral-bound book as a surprise for his daughter's 21st birthday. The notebook, which includes doodles by John Lennon, was part of a Sotheby's sale of rock and roll memorabilia at the Hard Rock Cafe in London. The Beatles' road manager, Mal Evans, compiled the book. . . . The former Spice Girl Geri Halliwell parted with her pop diva wardrobe and other memorabilia on Wednesday, the second day of Sotheby's rock auction, raising almost \$143,000 (\$242,150) for a children's cancer charity. A Union Jack dress worn by Ginger Spice for a performance at last year's Brit Awards was the highlight, fetching \$41,320.

□

Mohamed al Fayed, the owner of the London department store Harrods,

thinks his life is interesting. Just look on his Web site. The new site — www.alfayed.com — says it is dedicated to carrying a "comprehensive database of newspaper articles relating to al Fayed's interesting life." The site includes a large section of stories related to the car crash last year in Paris that killed his son, Dodi, and Diana, Princess of Wales. A section under

construction will contain three sub-headings about the couple: "The Love Affair," "August 31" and "Unanswered Questions."

□

After agreeing to donate a prized diary written during the infancy of the United States, Cory Luxmoore took a taxi to his hotel in Philadelphia, walked

in the door and realized he had left his ancestor's 190-year-old journal on the back seat of the cab. "I've felt sick" since then, said Luxmoore, who has been trying desperately to find the diary, which contains notes on meeting George Washington and many other figures in Philadelphia's history. The diary, lost Sept. 4, was one of several kept by Luxmoore's ancestor Deborah Norris Logan. The Library Company, the intended beneficiary of the gift, is offering a \$1,000 reward for the book's safe return.

□

A life-size bronze statue of Bert Parks, the longtime master of ceremonies of the Miss America Pageant, is now on display in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The \$35,000 creation in the courtyard of the Sheraton Atlantic City Convention Center is equipped with motion sensors that, when tripped by the head of a visitor, activate a recording of Parks singing "There She Is," his serenade to each year's winner. Parks died in 1992 at 77.

New Kennedy Center Award for Richard Pryor

WASHINGTON — To recognize those who create humor from their uniquely American experiences, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington is establishing a Celebration of American Humor and a prize named for Mark Twain. The center announced Tuesday that the first recipient of the Kennedy Center Mark Twain Prize will be the comedian and actor Richard Pryor.

Pryor will be honored in the Concert Hall on Oct. 20 at the culmination of three days of lectures, symposiums and master classes beginning on Oct. 18. The center said participants in the program, which it expects to be an annual event, will include Chevy Chase, Morgan Freeman, Danny Glover, Whoopi Goldberg, Damon Wayans and Robin Williams. It is to be televised in January on the Comedy Central cable channel.



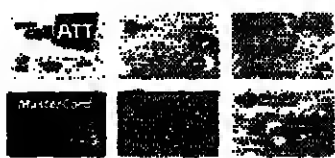
(put on a happy face)

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